





GEN

✓



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2019

<https://archive.org/details/historyofbristol02hutt>



ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

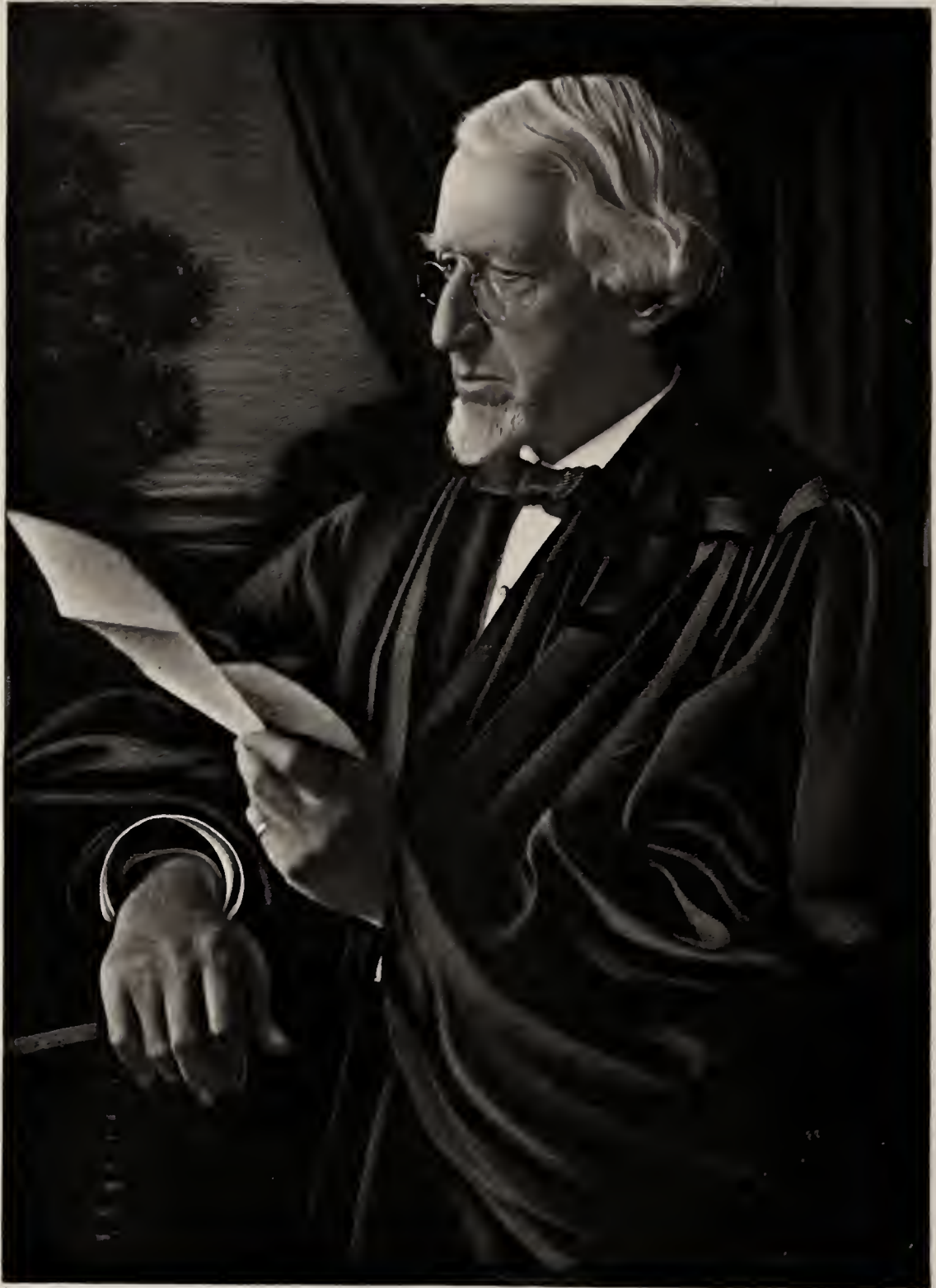


3 1833 01101 1035

GENEALOGY  
974.401  
B77HUT  
v.2







Lewis Historical Pub Co.

Eng by E. G. Williams & Bro. N.Y.

James M. Morton

A HISTORY  
OF  
BRISTOL COUNTY  
MASSACHUSETTS

---

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

FRANK WALCOTT HUTT

*Secretary of the Old Colony Historical Society;  
member of the Society for the Preservation  
of New England Antiquities*

---

HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL

---

VOLUME II.

---

LEWIS HISTORICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.

NEW YORK and CHICAGO

1924



COPYRIGHT, 1924  
LEWIS HISTORICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.  
NEW YORK AND CHICAGO

1128654

# HISTORY OF BRISTOL COUNTY



PART IV.

# HISTORY OF NEW BEDFORD









NEW BEDFORD IN 1810. (FROM AN OLD PAINTING BY WILLIAM A. WALL)



NEW BEDFORD—CORNER WATER AND WILLIAMS STREETS IN 1805

# HISTORY OF NEW BEDFORD

---

## CHAPTER I.

### INTRODUCTORY

As the stranger enters the city of New Bedford today, he is impressed with the thought that he is now coming to one of America's busy, bustling manufacturing centers, where twentieth century machinery, backed by brains and muscle, are all in tune. And so he is, but there is nothing in the first appearance that suggests tradition, or a city of mature and wonderful charm. But when he walks about the town, he comes upon the greatest estates of a far-off day, when men of fortune and refinement could command room to indulge their spacious fancies—stately mansions of stone and wood, set back from the street, surrounded by extensive lawns and ancient trees, with old-fashioned gardens, the flower beds with overhanging borders of roses—all calculated to enchant the passer-by. These old mansions were surrounded with great elms towering high above and over all, a joy forever; the grass was then green by the wayside, and all nature seemed at rest.

The sight of the manifestations of wealth and culture cause us to want to tell the stranger of today and future generations the story of the romantic age of New Bedford's history, when it led the world in the industry of whaling, and then to change and tell the transformation story of how the city came to be the site of its marvelous factory plants, the source of her present great wealth which is annually rapidly increasing in its magnitude. Passing over the long years which will be treated in the succeeding chapters, let us take a glimpse of what may be termed the golden age of whaling, when Herman Melville, whose story of "Moby Dick," the finest contribution to literature of whaling along our shores, gave his graphic description of New Bedford in the fifties. Some of his description we quote:

But think not that this town has only harpooners, cannibals and bumpkins, to show their visitors. Nowhere in all America will you find more patrician-like houses; parks and gardens more opulent, than in New Bedford. Whence came they; how planted upon this once scraggy scoria of a country? Go and gaze on the iron emblematic harpoons 'round yonder lofty mansion, and your question will be answered. Yes, all the brave houses and flowery gardens came from the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans. One and all, they were harpooned and dragged up hither from the bottom of the sea. Can Herr Alexander perform a feat like this?

In New Bedford, fathers, they say, give whales for dowers to their daughters, and portion off their nieces with a few porpoises apiece. You must go to New Bedford to see brilliant weddings; for, they say, they have reservoirs of oil in every house, and every night recklessly burn their lengths in spermaceti candles.

In summer time, the town is sweet to see; full of fine maples—long avenues of green and gold. And in April, high in air, the beautiful horse-chestnuts, candelabra-wise, proffer the passer-by their tapering upright cones of congregated blossoms. So omnipotent is the art which in many a district of New Bedford has superinduced bright terraces of flowers upon barren refuse rocks thrown aside at creation's final day.

And the women of New Bedford—they bloom like their own red roses. But roses only bloom in summer; whereas the fine carnation of their cheeks is perennial as



sunlight in the seventh heavens. Elsewhere match that bloom of theirs ye cannot, save in Salem, where they tell me the young girls breathe such muck, their sailor sweethearts smell them miles from shore, as though they were drawing nigh the odorous Moluccas instead of the Puritanic sands.

The visitor of New Bedford today (1923) will not see sights as these paragraphs describe. The city has come to make the land tributary to her wealth. The old ships that once crowded the wharves have gone forever. So have the industries allied to whaling—the oil refineries, the candle works, the cooper shops, the shops where harpoons and kindred instruments of whalecraft were made. Here a new and greater city has been builded on the twentieth century plan. Then, reader, listen to the story of how New Bedford was changed from a great whaling port to one of wonderful manufacturing industries of which the citizens are and have the right to be proud.

---

## CHAPTER II.

### DISCOVERY AND EARLY HAPPENINGS

Bartholomew Gosnold discovered what he named Elizabeth Islands (in honor of his Queen), in 1602. He left his men to build a fort and storehouse upon one of the group, while he crossed the bay (Buzzards) and discovered the mouth of the river (Acushnet), on the west shore of which later arose the city of New Bedford. This was in the month of March, and June the same year he sailed for England with his ship loaded with sassafras root, furs, and other articles bought from the Indians, who had treated the strangers with "all courteous kindness." This is the first record of any commercial intercourse between Old and New England, showing the first impression we made on the tribes of Indians—we were their friends from the start. In 1620 came the immortal "Mayflower" with her body of men and women, who amid hardship and untold suffering founded a mighty nation here. Plymouth Colony became a positive fact.

Salem was settled in 1628, and Massachusetts Bay in 1630. From these and subsequent settlements went forth the pioneers who invaded the interior and forced their way up and down the "stern and rock-bound coast." Communities were founded at Scituate, Middleboro, Taunton and Dartmouth, all being known within a few years as good trading places and centers of local government, with schools and churches. It was not until 1652 that Dartmouth was purchased from the Indians, through old chief Massasoit and his son Wamsutta, the old Indian deed naming as the purchasers William Bradford, Captain Standish, Thomas Southworth, John Winslow, John Cooke, and the "rest of their associates or old comers." The entire township of Dartmouth was divided into thirty-four shares which were named and entered in Plymouth Colony records, Book 2, page 107, where the boundaries of the purchase are also set forth. Prior to 1652, there were other settlers whose names were later entered on record.

**Incorporation.**—The town of Dartmouth was incorporated in 1664, and sent its first representative, John Russell, to the General Court at Plymouth.

John Cooke, one of the "boys of the Mayflower," an only son of one of the original grantees of the town, became a resident, locating his home at Oxford Village, Fairhaven. He was a Baptist preacher, was an important public-spirited man, and held local offices. He died in 1694, and was buried at Burial Hill, Fairhaven. The will of William Wood, when probated, was found to contain this bequest: "And whereas the bodies of some persons that were of good account in their day were buried on the little hummock or island in the meadow at the foot of my homestead commonly called 'Burial Hill,' and I not willing that their graves be anyway defaced do therefore in this my will hereby give the same hummock or island to and for a burying place forever." During King Philip's War the township of Dartmouth was laid waste by the Indians, and many settlers lost their lives, and those who did escape sought safety in the garrison houses located—one in Fairhaven, just north of the present site of Riverside Cemetery, at the home of John Cooke, and known as Cooke's Garrison; another on the north bank of the river Apponagansett, known as Russell's Garrison. Another was located on Palmer's Island. The war so demoralized the township that the settlers' taxes could not be paid for the next three years. The Indian wars that wrought such damage might have been avoided, but the difficulties that beset the Pilgrims must be considered; and now, with the world so recently in arms, no criticism is just that lays the blame for those years of suffering and loss upon either of the parties in question; both had provocation, both erred, and both suffered.

In 1685 the town was summoned to Plymouth Court to explain why they had failed to provide for their minister of the gospel. The outcome was that in 1686 it was ordered by a vote to build a meeting-house, which was to be "24 by 16 feet, with nine feet stud." Dartmouth Monthly Meeting was organized in 1699. The records of this church have been preserved until the present time.

During the first century of the town of Dartmouth, many settlers had located in the town, not attracted by its fertility of soil, but had made their homes there far away from the large centers that they might enjoy religious freedom. The growth was slow, and the events such as we would now call unimportant and without much general interest. Farming was the principal occupation. The land was taken up by both Puritan and Quaker stock. These pioneer settlers do not appear to have been guilty of any offense other than the want of obedience to the rigid requirements of the court in regard to the support of a minister and the observance of the Sabbath. There was a vast amount of friction between the Quakers and Puritans. In 1724 John Tucker and Peleg Slocum refused to pay a tax for building a Presbyterian church at Chilmark, and their property on Elizabeth Islands was seized. Yet to the Quakers of Dartmouth and Tiverton, aided by the Baptists, must be given the honor of the first successful appeal for justice to the English government.

In 1723, John Atkins and Philip Tabor of Dartmouth, Joseph Anthony and John Sissons of Tiverton, were assessors of their several towns. Being Quakers and Baptists, they refused to collect the taxes imposed by the General Court for the support of the ministry, and were thrown into prison at New Bristol. The case was tried in the courts and they were acquitted and the taxes levied were remitted.



The people were frequently under rebuke on account of the lack of interest they took in military matters. The chief military officer of the colony, writing in 1690 of Dartmouth, said: "They have not a man in the town that seems in the least concerned whether we have any military officers or no." In 1716 Dartmouth Monthly Meeting bore strong testimony against slavery, and a century and a half later New Bedford established a noble record as a city of refuge for the runaway slave and as a station on the so called "Underground Railroad."

While Dartmouth was for the first century an agricultural town, it was but natural that a village should spring up along the coast line of its territory. In 1760 the first tract was sold for village purposes to John Loudon; it was just south of the four corners (Union and Water streets), and upon this he erected a house in 1761. He was a calker by trade, and at one time conducted an inn which in the raid by the British was fired. In 1761 Benjamin Tabor bought land and established a structure suitable to carry on the boat-building and block-making business. In 1765 also came a new resident, Joseph Rotch, a merchant from Nantucket. Joseph Russell was also a pioneer merchant here and had to do with all the "beginnings" in New Bedford. Russell being the family name of the Duke of Bedford, hence the naming of New Bedford. It was first "Bedford," but when it was found that another Bedford was in the colony, the prefix "New" was added. A new order came about after Joseph Rotch located there. Houses and shops multiplied, population increased greatly, and soon the place had a name on the map of the world, and a coast fishery was soon established and lasted many years. The first ship built was in the yards owned by Francis Rotch, son of Joseph Rotch, near Hazzard's Wharf. The vessel, named "Dartmouth," launched in 1767, was the first to be built, and it had the distinction of being one of the vessels connected with the "Boston Tea Party." Another ship was built there about that time, the "Bedford," the ship which was the first to display the American flag in British waters. She was loaded with four hundred and eighty-seven butts of whale oil, was American built, manned wholly by American seamen. This was the vessel that first displayed the Stars and Stripes of America in any British port.

The population of New Bedford in 1775 was about five hundred souls. In 1795 it had about one thousand.

While the town of Dartmouth had been intensely loyal to the cause of Independence, the village of Bedford had taken little active part; in fact, had tried to curb her neighbor across the river, Fairhaven. There were no privateers fitted out or owned in New Bedford, but the harbor was an important rendezvous for privateers which were largely owned in Boston, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. However, many Dartmouth men were engaged in privateering, and the first naval exploit and capture recorded in the annals of the Revolution is placed to their credit—the date, May 13, 1775; place, Dartmouth Harbor. The war tied up the whaling fleet, and a host of daring, energetic men were without occupation. They naturally turned to privateering—the product of war, a strange mixture of good and evil prompting men to valiant deeds and noble sacrifices, and leading them to deeds of violence foreign to their nature. The records show that more than six hundred men sailed from Massachusetts ports alone; Boston



NEW BEDFORD—CORNER UNION AND PURCHASE STREETS IN 1820  
(STREET THROUGH CENTER IS PURCHASE)



NEW BEDFORD—CORNER UNION AND PURCHASE STREETS IN 1918





had a list of three hundred and fifty. Certain ports having good harbors, easy of access, became very important centers, Dartmouth being among the best, from which privateers shot in and out to thread the coast in both directions, disappearing at the presence of an English man-of-war, only to pounce upon some unsuspecting merchantman who soon afterward would be lawful prize, anchored at Dartmouth or other convenient port.

One of the famous figures in American naval history is John Paul Jones, a Scotchman by birth. He served on the "Alfred" in 1776, himself unfurling the American flag the first time it was flung to the breeze on board that ship. Soon after, he was given command of the "Providence," a fast sailing vessel mounting twelve guns, one of the fleet of thirteen vessels authorized by the Continental Congress. His first cruise lasted forty-seven days, resulting in the capture of sixteen prizes. He frequently visited Dartmouth Harbor, and his crew was recruited frequently from Dartmouth men. The "Providence" was so successful that a British brig-of-war near double the gun power of the American vessel, was ordered to cruise for her. The two vessels met and a bloody contest ensued. The final broadside of the "Providence" was chiefly of old spikes, bolts, and pieces of hoop-iron. So near was the battle fought to New Bedford, that when the vessels anchored in the harbor, blood was yet running from the sides of the brig. The wounded of the crew who later died were brought on shore and buried in a small hillock a short distance north of the spot once occupied by Rotch's rope-walk. Finally these dead seamen were more properly buried in Oak Grove Cemetery.

The activity on the part of Dartmouth privateers marked them for future vengeance. The severe conflict between the British and our vessels in that memorable fight is found well told in all American histories, also in the recent "History of Bristol County," pages 17 to 27. When the British retired, the condition of the town was pitiful. Warehouses, shipyards, rope-walks and stores that had given employment to the people; dwellings and barns; the fleet of seventy ships—all gone up in flame and smoke, New Bedford's contribution to the price paid for American Independence. The price paid by other communities was equally great, but when the news reached the individual members of the eight companies of soldiers who served from Dartmouth, a spirit was aroused that boded no good to the enemy they were to meet later. Dartmouth sent at least five hundred men into the army, besides a large number of seamen in our navy. All over the land there were men who remained loyal to the Crown, and it would have been strange if Dartmouth had been without such. The non-resistance of the members of the Society of Friends does not prove them opposed to Liberty's cause; on the contrary, just so far as their religious principles would permit, they were friendly and helpful.

---

### CHAPTER III.

#### THE BRAVE INDUSTRY OF WHALING.

The story of New Bedford's fascinating industry—the whale fishing—is so interwoven with the history of New Bedford that it cannot be separated from it, yet the story is so full of romance and adventure, as well as

of commercial importance, that it deserves special volumes where we can give chapters only.

The water front of New Bedford was once conspicuous by a forest of whaleship masts. Now the tall chimneys of the cotton mills have assumed the place they occupied in the picture, telling of the decline of the whaling business and the progress of the cotton industry which is now on the top wave of success.

Along the water front one still encounters a few old buildings of stone which were occupied by whaling agents in the palmy days of whaling, when a great race of merchants and captains frequented them. The merchants were a type of men such as this generation produces not,—portly nabobs who wore broadcloth and beaver hats and jeweled watch fobs, looking the part of men of large affairs, others in the garb of the Quaker, while the captain of those old days was the embodiment of affluence. The boys of that early day all aspired to command whaleships, and the captain of a whaler was looked upon by youth with the awe with which Mark Twain used to look upon the captains of the Mississippi steamboats.

In these buildings were the counting rooms of the whaling merchants. The first floors were often the ship chandlery shops and rooms where whaling outfits were stored between voyages. The counting rooms were on the second floors, and there were sail lofts and rigging lofts in the upper stories. These counting rooms had a character all their own. There were counters and iron railings behind which were desks of mahogany. The bookkeepers stood up, or sat on high stools. There were few desks in the old counting rooms at which the office help might sit in a chair. About the office walls were models of whaleships and whaling prints reproduced from the paintings of Benjamin Russell. There were boxes on the shelves, lettered with the names of the whale ships, in which the vessel's bills and papers were kept. One of these great buildings of stone and brick, unadorned by architectural ornament and reflecting the tendencies of the business men of the period, is still standing at the foot of Union street, and is now occupied in part by the offices of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad.

The late Jonathan Bourne, the most successful of all the whaling merchants in New Bedford's rich history, who owned at one time more ships than any man in New England, carried on business in the old stone block at the head of Merrill's wharf throughout his career, and his counting rooms are now exactly as he left them, the sole survivor of all the counting rooms which are visualized in the minds of those who remember the fascinating industry, no less than the quaint old ships strongly characterized by their clumsy wooden davits and masthead perches from which the lookouts watched for whales.

There is to-day an odor of whale oil about Merrill's wharf, contributed by a few hundred casks of oil that happen to be stored there at this time, which brings back memories of departed days to the old citizen who gets a whiff of oil and seaweed once so familiar. The power of smells to evoke pictures was recently emphasized by Mr. Kipling. "Have you noticed," he wrote the other day, "wherever a few travelers gather together, one or the other is sure to say, 'Do you remember the smell of such and such a place?' Then he may go to speak of camel—pure camel—one whiff of which is all



Arabia; or of the smell of rotten eggs at Hitt, on the Euphrates, where Noah got the pitch for the ark; or the flavor of drying fish in Burma." Mr. Kipling's allusion brought out a swarm of letters from people who tried to assign the characteristic smell of great cities. One man tells that the odor of Paris is a mingling of the fragrance of burnt coffee, of caporal and of burning peat. Berlin, we are told, has the clean, ashphalty, disinfectant smell of all new towns; while Vienna the windy reeks of dust. The London "Times," coming in here, is stirred to a pitch of poetical enlargement by the topic: "The subject of smells in their relation to the traveler is an old and favorite topic with Mr. Kipling. Has he not said somewhere that the smell of the Himalayas always calls a man back? And does not his time-expired soldier sing of the 'spicy garlic smells' of Burma? The smells of travel are indeed innumerable. The voyager gets his first real whiff of the east when he lands at Aden, and drives along a dusty road to the bazaar within the crater. It lingers in his nostrils for evermore. On the coast of Burma and down the straits the air is redolent of rotten fish and overripe fruit. Tropical jungles have been olfactory memories of decaying vegetation. The smell of Chinese villages is like nothing else in the world, but the odd thing is that to the true traveler it ceases to be disagreeable."

So much for smells, apropos of those which linger on Merrill's wharf. In the old days casks of oil coated with seaweed covered every wharf along the water front of New Bedford. The leakage saturated the soil, and the air was redolent with the heavy odor. After a century in which it was the distinctive New Bedford smell it has vanished excepting for this little spot where, in the only place on earth, is exhaled the odor of the industry which produced great fortunes and made the New Bedford of old the richest city in the country in proportion to its population.

The records of Plymouth and Nantucket as far back as 1676 and 1690, respectively, tell of the business of killing whales, which was carried on in boats from the shore. In 1751 there were two or three vessels from Apponagansett river engaged in this fishery. These vessels were owned by John Wady and Daniel Wood. There were at this date one or two vessels in this business from the Acushnet river owned by Joseph and Caleb Russell. Up to this time whales were principally taken between George's Bank and the Capes of Virginia; and the voyages continued from four to six weeks. Soon after, the whalers extended their cruising grounds to the eastward of the Newfoundland coast, and the voyages were lengthened to three months. At first more vessels were fitted from Apponagansett river than from the Acushnet; but soon the superior advantages of our harbor became apparent, and the Apponagansett vessels were fitted here.

"Consider for a moment the aspect of our town when these two or three little sloops were fitting for their whaling voyages," wrote William W. Crapo: "The present site of the city was a forest. There was a 'try-house' near the shore (at the foot of Centre street), and a rough cartway led through the woods to the few farm houses on the County road." The Rev. Paul Coffin, who ten years later (July 21, 1761) visited the place, thus describes it in his journal: "This day rode to Dartmouth, a spacious town; twenty miles will carry you through it. Rocks and oaks are over the whole town. Whortle bushes and rocks in this and the two former towns are the sad comfort of the weary traveler. At sunset arrived at Rev. West's."

New Bedford is very rich in old manuscripts, which are continually coming to light. A few sheets of great interest are preserved, giving an account of the Russell family. Joseph Russell was the founder of the whale fishery, and the record from which quotation is made was prepared by William T. Russell, sixty or seventy years ago. Joseph Russell was a son of John Russell, one of the original proprietors of the town of Dartmouth. He was born in 1719, and died in 1804. His house stood on the country road between the court house and the Charles W. Morgan estate. The old manuscript recites as follows:

In the early stages of the whaling business sloops of only forty or fifty tons were employed. These vessels ventured out to sea in the summer months only, and no further than the Capes of Virginia and Cape Hatteras, and took especial care to return to port before the equinoctial gales in September. They were generally successful in taking sperm whales, and brought home the blubber and tried it out on shore. As their experience increased larger vessels were employed, and they ventured as far as the bay of Mexico. And finally, during his life, ships ventured around Cape Horn to the Pacific ocean for sperm whales.

Joseph Russell first established a sperm oil factory in New Bedford. The building stood on the north side of the square at the foot of Center street. The art of refining spermaceti in those days was known to but a few men, and kept by them a profound secret. Joseph Russell employed a Mr. Chaffee for a number of years to do his refining at a salary of \$500 per year—an enormous sum for those days. While at work he was shut up by himself, and no one was allowed to be present, that no one should steal his wonderful art.

Joseph Russell was a shrewd, enterprising man. At one time he carried on an extensive mercantile business. In 1770, in company with his son Barnabas, he owned in addition to his whaling vessels several trading with southern ports and the West Indies. They kept a store at the foot of Center street, and imported their goods from London. The Revolutionary War put an end to their prosperity. Their vessels were taken and their losses by the depreciation of the Continental money left them at the close of the war with but little beside their real estate.

The ship "Rebecca" was the first ship built in New Bedford. She was launched in the spring of 1785. George Claghorn, who afterward built the frigate "Constitution," the pride of our navy, was the master carpenter. The "Rebecca" was owned by Joseph Russell and his sons, Barnabas and Gilbert. The timber of which she was built was largely cut in the southwesterly part of the town. She measured about 175 tons, which was considered so immensely large that she was the wonder and admiration of the surrounding country. People from Taunton, Bridgewater and all of the neighboring towns came to New Bedford to see the big ship. There was a woman figurehead carved for her and when it was about being put upon her a member of the Society of Friends remonstrated against so vain and useless an ornament, and she went to sea without it. A mock funeral service was held and the figurehead of "Rebecca" was buried in the sand. Joseph Russell's sons were the prime movers in the ceremony.

The owners of the "Rebecca" had some difficulty in finding a man of sufficient experience to trust with the command of so big a ship. James Haydon was finally selected for her captain, and Cornelius Grinnell her first mate. She sailed on her first voyage to Philadelphia, from there to Liverpool. Mr. Grinnell was her captain on the second voyage, and he commanded her for six years.

The "Rebecca" was the first American whaleship to double Cape Horn. She was commanded by Captain Kearsley and made a successful voyage, obtaining a cargo of sperm oil on the coast of Chile, returning in about twelve months. The "Rebecca" finally made a disastrous end. She sailed from Liverpool for New York in the autumn of 1798, commanded by Captain Andrew Gardner, and was never heard from.

Joseph Rotch came here from Nantucket in 1765, realizing the greater opportunities for the whaling industry here, and purchased a large tract of land. William Rotch came later, bringing with him his son, William Rotch, Jr. They were men of great wealth and built stately mansions with



beautiful surroundings, "fair as gardens of the Lord." They brought their ships likewise. Several of the vessels of the Rotch fleet achieved great fame. It was the ship "Dartmouth," named by Dartmouth men, that carried the tea into Boston harbor that was thrown over by Revolutionary patriots. It was the ship "Bedford" that was the first to display our flag in British waters. The credit has sometimes been given to the ship "Maria." As a matter of fact the credit belongs to the old ship "Bedford" of this port. It was surpassingly strange that not only the newspapers but Mrs. Farrar, a granddaughter of elder William Rotch, in her "Recollections of Seventy Years," and Mrs. P. A. Hanaford, published the erroneous statement. "I have often heard the old gentleman tell with pride and pleasure," wrote Mrs. Farrar, "that the 'Maria' was the first ship that ever unfurled the flag of the United States in the Thames." Yet the records show that on the date the flag was displayed in the Thames the "Maria" was lying at the wharf at Nantucket. "Barnard's History," a rare book, published at the time, contained the following:

The ship "Bedford," Captain Mooers, belonging in Massachusetts, arrived in the Downs on the 3d of February, passed Gravesend on the 3d, and was reported at the custom house on the 6th inst. She was not allowed regular entry until some consultation had taken place between the commissioners of the customs and the lords of council, on account of the many acts of Parliament in force against the rebels of America. She was loaded with 487 butts of whale oil, is American built, manned wholly by American seamen, and wears the rebel colors. This is the first vessel that has displayed the thirteen rebellious stripes of America in any British port. The vessel is at Horseledour, a little below the Tower, and is intended to return immediately to New England.

In a letter to Hezekiah Barnard, dated at New Bedford, 8th mo., 3d, 1842, William Rotch, Jr., thus speaks of the "Bedford" and her voyage:

In 1781 Admiral Digby granted thirty licenses for our vessels to go after whales. I was then connected with my father and Samuel Rodman in business. Considerable oil was obtained in 1782. In the fall of that year I went to New York and procured licenses from Admiral Digby for the "Bedford," William Mooers, master, and I think the "Industry," John Chadwick, master. They loaded. The "Bedford" sailed first, arriving in the Downs, February 23, the day of the signing of the preliminary treaty of peace between the United States, France and England, and went up to London, and there displayed for the first time the United States flag. The "Industry" arrived afterwards, and was, I suppose, the second to display it. The widow of George Hayley, who did much business with New England, would visit the old "Bedford" and see the flag displayed. She was the sister of the celebrated John Wilkes.

William Rotch, Jr., might have added to his notice of Mme. Hayley that a more intimate connection with the Rotches than a visit to the ship was contemplated, for Mme. Hayley was at one time betrothed to Francis Rotch.

Even if the "Maria" is deprived of the erroneous fame attributed to her, she yet remains the most interesting vessel, perhaps, that ever sailed from this port. She was built for a privateer at Pembroke, Massachusetts, in 1782. She was purchased by William Rotch, and taken to Nantucket, from whence she made a voyage to London with a cargo of oil. After the voyage she was employed in whaling, and was owned by Samuel Rodman. It is a tradition that she was a bridal present from Mr. Rodman's father-in-law, Mr. Rotch, on the occasion of the marriage of his daughter. In all she made twenty-seven voyages, and is credited with having taken about 25,000 barrels of sperm oil, whale oil, and many thousand pounds of

whalebone. It is said that in 1859 \$250,000 stood to her credit. She had been of but little expense to her underwriters.

On July 4, 1785, when the "Maria" sailed for London with a cargo of oil, Mr. Rotch and his son Benjamin went in her as passengers to induce the English government to permit the establishment of the whale fishery in England. Mr. Rotch had several interviews with the leaders of the government, and, getting no satisfaction, he went to France and had an interview with the King, which resulted in establishing the industry at Dunkirk. Returning to England in the "Maria", Mr. Rotch had the satisfaction of telling the English they were too late, France having accepted the offer of which England was slow to take advantage.

When the "Maria" was fifty years old, she had made four voyages to London, thirteen to Brazil banks, then a famous whaling ground; one to the Indian ocean, one to the Falkland islands, and eighteen to the Pacific ocean. In 1836 the "Maria" sailed, but returned, having been struck by lightning. In 1838 she was changed from a ship to a bark, and in 1849 sailed for the Indian ocean. While on this cruise the bark's career was nearly ended. She was seized by the natives of the Johanna islands. Captain Morris, then in command, was imprisoned. The bark was afterwards released and spared the fate of burning, which was frequently dealt by the natives in those times.

The "Maria" sailed for this port September 29, 1859, on what was destined to be her last voyage under the American flag. She was then seventy-seven years old, and had been owned by Mr. Rotch and his descendants all the time. To avoid the risk of capture by rebel cruisers she was sold February 24, 1863, at Talcahuano, Chile, to Burton & Trumbull, and her name was changed to "Maria Pachaco." She was used as a coaler until 1866, when she was fitted for whaling under command of David Briggs, of Dartmouth, Massachusetts. She continued under the Chilean flag in the whaling and coal carrying business until 1870. Then she was used as an oil receiving ship until 1872, when she took fire and was condemned. With her breaking up at Vancouver Island, her strange eventful history was brought to a close.

The War of the Revolution nearly destroyed the whaling business, and when peace was restored there was great rejoicing, and then came a stunning blow. Great Britain, as William W. Crapo tells us, had enacted a law which in effect prohibited the importation of American caught oil into the kingdom. The purpose of the law was apparent. The New England catch was in excess of the demand for home consumption, and unless there was an outlet for the surplus, which had been largely through London, there could be no extension of the industry; and, with the surplus thrown upon a market which did not require it, the return would be unremunerative, which would lead to reduction of the fleet and the possible abandonment of the enterprise. Great Britain did not pass the law for the purpose of protecting an existing British industry, nor to encourage or promote a new British industry. Far from it. The words of Edmund Burke in his famous speech in Parliament a few years before, when remonstrating against the war with the colonies, were still ringing in the ears of the Britons. He told them of a people living on the New England coast, few in number, who surpassed in maritime adventure and daring the



people of every nation in Europe. With rare and impressive eloquence he had portrayed their marvelous triumphs on the ocean. He said they were a people whom equinoctial heats did not disturb, nor the accumulated winters of the poles. That there was no ocean that was not vexed with their vessels, and no climate that did not witness their toil. He spoke of them as people still "in the gristle," as it were, and not yet hardened in the bone of manhood. England was ambitious to be the mistress of the seas, and she feared that the new nation, should it become strong and powerful, might some day challenge her sovereignty of the ocean. Hence she would throttle and destroy at the outset an industry that bred such a race of seamen.

William Rotch went to London. He interviewed the leading public men of that time. He met members of Parliament and urged the repeal of the obnoxious law. He was received with coldness. After long and vexatious delay the matter was referred to the First Lord of the Admiralty, Lord Hawksbury. Realizing that he could not obtain the annulment of the law Mr. Rotch still hoped that some agreement would be reached whereby to secure the continuance of the New England whale fishery. He suggested that an English port be designated where American whaleships could enter to make repairs and to purchase the equipment and supplies for their voyage, thereby furnishing employment to English workmen and profit to English tradesmen, and on the completion of the voyages such vessels might reënter that port and discharge their cargoes, which would be sold and distributed by English merchants who would receive a liberal compensation for their service. Mr. Rotch had in mind, if this concession was granted, that the ships owned in Dartmouth and Nantucket would still fly the American flag and be manned with American sailors.

The concession was not granted,—Lord Hawksbury scornfully saying—"Mr. Rotch, we do not want your ships. England builds ships. What we do want are your men." And so he went to France. He met there members of the Ministry and explained to them what he wanted to accomplish, and asked for certain privileges and protection. They were granted to him by the government. At Dunkirk he established a business for the marketing of American oil, which he placed in charge of his son Benjamin. Returning to this country he ever afterwards lived in New Bedford, which had separated from the mother town, and never ceased his efforts for the success of the whaling industry for the community to which he had attached himself.

In the succeeding generation the prominent whaling merchants were John Avery Parker and George Howland, Sr. They were able men, with full knowledge of all matters pertaining to the fishery. They were enterprising, venturesome, efficient and successful. They added many ships to our fleet, and they greatly increased the wealth of the town.

Among the men of that period who had an important part in our special industry was Isaac Howland, Jr., the founder and active manager of the firm which bore his name. His firm is remembered by the magnitude of its operations and the gainful results. The remarkable house founded by Isaac Howland, Jr., is represented and crystallized in the famous Hetty Green. Isaac Howland, Jr., was a little man, weighing only ninety-five pounds. He found it the greatest hardship and toil to accumulate the first thousand dollars. When there were small schooners trading from the

West Indies, before the seizures which led to the French spoliation claims, the sailors wore silk stockings into port on the Howlands' ships. Isaac Howland, Jr., bought these stockings from the men, washed and ironed them, and resold them at a good profit. This is a feeble structure on which to build a fortune of forty or fifty millions. He could neither read nor write. His one object was money, money, money. He had one daughter who married the famous Uncle Gideon Howland. Uncle Gideon lived on the corner of School and South Water streets. He died in 1847, leaving about \$800,000.

Edward Mott Robinson, the father of Hetty Green, came here penniless, and married Abby Howland, one of Gideon's daughters. The other daughter was Sylvia Ann Howland, who never married. Robinson was a strange man. He lived a sad and miserable life, and he had few redeeming qualities. Many stories are told of him. One day a young man offered him a cigar. He examined it and asked what it cost. Upon being told that it cost ten cents he handed it back with the remark: "I buy mine two for a cent. If I smoke that one I will have my taste cultivated for good ones, and I don't want that." Of George Howland, Sr., Mary Jane Howland Taber wrote:

He was particular about the names of his ships. There was the "George and Susan," and the "George Howland," and the "Ann Alexander," the name of an Irish friend who was traveling in this country, and the "Corinthian," supposed to refer to Paul's epistles, and the "Golconda," a pleasant association of ideas with the diamond mines of Hindustan, and when he bought of Stephen Girard a merchant vessel named "Rousseau," it was with the intention of fitting her for a whaler and changing her name. As soon as she arrived in this port he had the figurehead of the "infidel" chopped off and thrown into the mud of the dock, where perchance it still reposes. While casting about in his mind for an unexceptional name he was told the name could not be changed. Once "Rousseau," always "Rousseau." He declared he was very much tried, which in worldly parlance might mean very angry, or pretty mad, and talked of sending the ship back to Philadelphia, though of course he was aware that could not be done. This devil's bark proved very lucky, and always made what the sailors call greasy voyages, but when her great catches were reported her owner puffed out his cheeks and emitted a contemptuous "pooh." When he was obliged to speak the name he purposely mispronounced it "Rus-o," and to this day you will hear people speak of the old "Rus-o." She had the longest life of any known ship, lasting from 1801 to 1893. The bracket which supports the bust of George Howland, Jr., in the Free Public Library, is a part of the carved scroll which usurped the place under the bowsprit of the great Frenchman's figurehead, and has ploughed most of the oceans of the globe.

**The Golden Age.**—In what might be called "The Golden Age" of New Bedford, its whaling vessels in number and tonnage exceeded the combined fleets of all other whaling ports, and New Bedford became known as the foremost whaling port of the world.

In 1845 New Bedford was the fourth tonnage district in the United States, the others being New York, Boston and New Orleans. The registered tonnage of New Bedford at that time was nearly double that of Philadelphia. Seven hundred and thirty-six vessels of all kinds were employed in the business, with a tonnage of 233,262. The greatest import ever received in one year was in 1845, being 158,000 barrels of sperm oil, 272,000 barrels of whale oil, and 3,000,000 pounds of whalebone. The prices then ruled at eighty-eight to ninety and one-half cents for sperm oil; thirty-two and seven-eighths to thirty-six and one-half cents for whale oil; and thirty-three and five-eighths to forty cents for whalebone. The whaleships



owned in New Bedford would have made a line ten miles in length. The whaleboats which they carried would have extended six miles if strung out in a line, and there were 10,000 strong sailors to man them.

The present generation knows from tradition that New Bedford once ranked among the whaling cities, but there are few, if any, who know what this industry meant in dollars and cents. The literature of the subject has been devoted to the romance, and to certain statistics dealing with vessels employed, dates of sailings and catches; but in this practical day there is no doubt a desire to know what there was in it from the dividend point of view.

An old report on the whale fishery, compiled by James Arnold and made to the National Convention for the Protection of American Interests about the year 1843, recently came to light. It is the property of Frank E. Brown, and gives statistics which have never been compiled elsewhere, and which furnish information on one phase of our historic industry which is of exceeding interest. James Arnold, it may be said, was a son-in-law and partner of William Rotch, Jr., and a famous merchant prince, a "captain of industry," to employ the vernacular of the day. Boston people remember him as the giver of the "Arnold arboretum," and his benefactions to his home city were numerous. There is hardly an institution or charitable society but has its "James Arnold fund." Mr. Arnold made his report from tabular schedules kept at New Bedford. The whole number of vessels employed in the national whale fishery was estimated at 650, tonnage 193,000 tons, manned by 16,000 officers and men. Of these vessels it was estimated that 360 were employed in the spermaceti and 290 in the common whale fishery.

The total cost of fitting the fleets was \$10,610,060. This labor and material was for ordinary outfit, and not for ships requiring repairs, often involving the cost of a new ship. On the basis of these estimates Mr. Arnold estimated the whole value of the ships and outfit as they sail at \$20,120,000.

The length of voyages in the sperm fishery at that time was three years, and on the right whale ships twenty months. The proceeds or imports from the fishery in 1841 were \$7,359,022, on which the officers and crews would draw for their services on the voyage about thirty per cent., or \$2,207,706. These figures show the volume of business and its profits in a form which has not been presented elsewhere. Roughly figured, and based on three-year voyages, they show annual proceeds to the owner on an investment of \$20,120,000 of \$5,151,316, exclusive of interest and insurance charges and depreciation.

Just a word about the men who were masters and officers of the New Bedford ships in those days. A race of men had been nurtured and trained on these ships who were daring and skillful, with keen, perceptive faculties in pursuit of the big game. They were also able navigators and seamen, upright and careful managers of the property entrusted to them. They were gathered from the town or from the surrounding country. Naturally there was a fascination to the youthful mind. They were the heroes of the port, and they looked to pass the grades of promotion speedily, and in due time to walk the deck as master. And this, those of them who were of the right stuff, really did.

The position of competent master of a good ship was one to be envied. Even if it did cause for a time separation from home ties and family surroundings, it was a position of honor and trust and great responsibility. The master was in charge of life and property, and his word was law, and where he willed he could go. On his discretion and good judgment turned success or failure to many besides himself, on sea and shore. His draft in foreign ports for supplies or requirements bound every individual owner in the ship for the full amount of his disbursements. In this respect the power entrusted to him illustrates the inconsistencies of our human nature; close, careful men, who on shore would not trust their neighbor with a small portion of their property, who distrusted everyone's judgment and integrity, would placidly repose in the power of a master who was to sail the world around, and had the right to make drafts in any quarter that might easily absorb their all. To the honor of the men who commanded ships and accepted such trusts be it said that instances wherein they were unfaithful to the confidences reposed in them were rare indeed.

The business was an almost perfect instance of coöperative work. The owners furnished ship and all the necessary outfits and advances. Captain, officers and crew took these from their hands, and furnished their capacity and energy to procure the cargo, each man on board to receive a certain *pro rata* or share, called "lay," of the net result, the distribution being in the proportion of two-thirds to the capital invested, and one-third to labor; in the latter ability, readily recognized, commanded the highest reward.

No member of a whaleship's crew, from the captain down, received fixed wages. If the ship takes no oil, or disaster overtakes her, the crew have nothing but their existence and labor and pains. Officers and crew are shipped with the promise of a certain percentage of the catch. A captain receives a lay ranging from a tenth or twelfth to a fifteenth, according to his success in previous voyages, which means that one barrel of oil in every ten to fifteen taken is his share. In the case of a foremast hand his lay ranges from one hundred-and-fiftieth to one two-hundredth. The ordinary whaler carries a crew of thirty-five men. The mate receives a lay from an eighteenth to a twenty-fifth, according to agreement. The second mate receives a thirty-fourth, the third mate a forty-fifth, boat-header a fifty-fifth, four boatsteers from a hundred and eighteenth to a hundred and seventh-fifth, cooper a sixty-third, steward a ninetieth, cook a hundred and twentieth and half the slush, green hands from a hundred and seventy-fifth to a hundred and eighty-fifth, boy a two-hundredth, one seaman and one seaman carpenter each a hundred and sixty-fifth, three ordinary seamen each a hundred and seventy-fifth.

As illustrating the aspect of life along the water front of New Bedford during the days when the whaling industry was in its prime the following from "The Mercury" of March 30, 1838, is quoted: "We have the satisfaction today of announcing the safe arrival at this port during the last two days of no less than nine vessels employed in the whale fishery, richly freighted with cargoes amounting in the aggregate nearly to 20,000 barrels of sperm and whale oil, and valued at the present prices at more than \$260,000. A considerable portion of these cargoes have been already disposed of, and for the quantity remaining to be put on the market, even higher rates will probably be obtained, in consequence of the recent advance



in the price of oils in the European markets." And again November 2, 1838, it is announced: "Four arrivals at this port Friday from the Pacific ocean have brought upwards of 9,500 barrels of sperm oil, valued at about \$290,000."

Some of the bowhead whales yield an enormous product. Authorities differ as to the number of slabs of whalebone to be found in the jaw of the bowhead and right whales. Captain Wicks says 615 slabs in a bowhead and 420 in a right whale. Captain Earle says 514 in a bowhead, and Captain George Baker says 630 in a bowhead and 430 in a right whale. Captain Simeon Hawes once took a bowhead whale which made 375 barrels of oil, which is the record. The steamer "Jeanette" took a whale one cruise the bone of which weighed 3,000 pounds. Captain Willis, on one Arctic voyage, took two whales the bone of which aggregated 5,600 pounds. Captain Henry Taber, in the bark "America," took a bowhead whale the bone of which weighed 3,000 pounds, the oil made 260 barrels and some of the whalebone measured seventeen feet in length. Two of the slabs of this bone were in a Honolulu shipping office for many years, and lately have been in a saloon there. A North Dartmouth man remembers the circumstances of the taking of this whale, and saw the bone in Tom Spencer's office in Honolulu. This was almost the longest bone ever taken from a bowhead whale. The ship "Ocean" once took a freak whale with an abnormally small body, the bone of which was eighteen feet in length.

Captain Charles Brower, who spent more than twenty-five years in the Arctic, made the statement that a bowhead whale will break ice two feet thick. Upon the receipt of whalebone in port it is cleaned with scrapers and brushes, and then submitted to a softening process in water until it becomes pliable, when it is steamed and cut into strips and lengths of marketable size. Arctic whalers figure that for every barrel of oil taken from the bowhead there will be seventeen pounds of whalebone, while in the Okhotsk sea but fourteen pounds of bone to the barrel.

**New Bedford in Melville's Time.**—Fifty years ago boys carried "Moby Dick" to bed and scared themselves so wide awake with Captain Ahab and his terrible foe that they couldn't get to sleep. And this classic of whaling romance, with its graphic pictures of New Bedford fifty years ago, is now so far forgotten that a lover of Herman Melville has asked fifty New Bedford boys if they have read "Moby Dick," and not one, he declares, had ever heard of this book.

The fascinating picture of New Bedford which Melville presented has caused many a boy and man to make a pilgrimage here. Robert J. Burdette confesses that he came about thirty years ago with Melville's picture in his mind, and "The Spouter Inn" was not, albeit a man showed him the long lance, "now widely elbowed," with which Nathan Swain did kill fifteen whales between a sunrise and a sunset. The fact that Melville has presented to us a picture of New Bedford fifty years ago, at a time when it was one of the unique cities of the world, makes it possible for this generation to appreciate how great a change the years have accomplished in the successful effort to keep up with a changing world.

It was a Saturday night in December, sixty or seventy years ago, when Melville stuffed a few shirts into his carpet bag and left New York for

Cape Horn and the Pacific by way of New Bedford and Nantucket. He was determined to sail on a Nantucket whaler, because in the matter of whaling Nantucket was the great original—the Tyre of this Carthage—the place where the first American whale was stranded, and from whence the first adventurous sloop put forth, partly laden with imported cobble stones, the story goes, to throw at the whale in order to discover when they were nigh enough to risk a harpoon from the bowsprit. As a matter of fact he sailed from New Bedford in the “Acushnet.” His name may yet be seen on the crew list which reposes at the custom house. He missed the packet, and to this we are indebted for the only picture of New Bedford in those whaling times, which is preserved to us. It was a very dark and dismal night, biting cold and cheerless. “Such dreary streets,” writes Melville, “blocks of blackness, not houses, on either hand, and here and there a candle, like a candle moving about in a tomb.” With halting steps Melville paced the streets. He passed the sign of “The Crossed Harpoons,” which looked too expensive and jolly. So did the “Sword Fish Inn.” At last he came to a dim sort of light, not far from the docks, and heard a forlorn creaking in the air, and looking up saw a swinging sign over the door, with a painting upon it representing a tall, straight jet of misty spray, and underneath these words, “The Spouter Inn, Peter Coffin.”

Then follows the description of “The Spouter Inn,” typical of the sailor boarding house which disappeared but a few years ago. There was a wide, low, straggling entry, with old-fashioned wainscots, reminding one of the bulwarks of some old condemned craft. On one side hung a painting representing a Cape Horner in a hurricane, the half foundered ship weltering with three dismantled masts alone visible, and an exasperated whale purposing to spring clean over the craft in the seemingly enormous act of impaling himself upon the three mastheads. On the opposite wall was hung a heathenish array of clubs and spears, some set with glittering teeth resembling ivory saws. Mixed with these were rusty old whaling lances and harpoons, broken and deformed. Then there were divers specimens of skirmishander.

This was all typical only a few years ago, and the description would have applied to scores of sailor boarding houses on Water street and “The Marsh,” but now they are not. Nor is the prototype of Queequeg, that awful harpooner, “He never eats dumplings; he don’t. He eats nothing but steaks, and likes ’em rare.”

Of all the institutions connected with whaling mentioned by Melville, there is but one which can be pointed out to the seeker of literary landmarks. That is the Seaman’s Bethel. The New Bedford Port Society was established over seventy years ago, and in 1831 a chapel was built. It was dedicated May 2, 1832, “Father” Taylor, of Boston, officiating. Then the Bethel flag was unfurled, and from that time to the present has never failed on every Sabbath morning to signal to the sailor that there is a temple peculiarly his own, where he is welcomed on his return from his voyage, and where he can listen to the words of Gospel. The chapel that Melville attended and described was destroyed by fire in 1866, but a feature that attracted the writer’s attention is still the wonder of the visitor. The walls are covered with marble cenotaphs, masoned into the walls, reading to the sailor about to go down to the sea the fate of the whalemen who





BARK "GREYHOUND"



BARK "BERTHA"



have gone before him. Delightful inducements to embark, fine chance for promotion, it seems, for a stove boat will make him more immortal by brevet. Yes, there is death in this business of whaling—a speechlessly quick chaotic bundling of a man into eternity. The tablets were often placed in the walls by the shipmates of the sailors lost at sea. Occasionally they were provided by a mother, wife or sister. Some of them bear weeping willows; others, more appropriately, ships; and nearly all are bordered by heavy black frames. Here is a sample cenotaph:

In the Memory of  
CAPT. WM. SWAIN,  
Associate Master of the  
Christopher Mitchell of Nantucket.

This worthy man, after fastening to a whale, was carried overboard  
by the line and drowned

May 19th, 1844, in the 49th year of his age.

“Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the son of man cometh.”

There is one which tells of the tragic death of Charles Petty, who was bitten by a shark while bathing near the ship, and died in nine hours. He was buried by his shipmates on the Island of De Loss, near the coast of Africa. Some of the tablets are inscribed with a verse, like this one—of one who fell from aloft and was drowned:

The sea curls over him and the foaming billow  
As his head now rests upon a watery pillow,  
But the spirit divine has ascended to rest,  
To mingle with those who are ransomed and blest.

The officers and crew of the “Emily Morgan” have erected a stone to the memory of Lewis Ayshire, and this verse is engraved on the tablet:

The ship’s bell—deep-toned moaning sound—  
Boomed o’er the quiet air,  
To call the crew in the sadness round  
To attend the funeral prayer.  
In his coral grave he’s left to rest,  
With no urn or willow tree;  
His tablet is in the sailor’s breast,  
This token of which you see.

The following inscription on a tablet shows how generally the men in a family followed the sea in the old days, and how often they were bereaved:

To the Memory of  
WILLIAM S. JAY,  
Chief mate of bark Gov. Carver, who died on board at sea, Feb. 7, 1863.  
Aged 29 years.  
Also his Uncles,  
GILBERT JAY,  
Of the ship Peru of Nantucket, was lost from a boat while in pursuit  
of a whale, 1822, aged 27 years;



FRANKLIN JAY,

Mate of ship *Pioneer*, was lost from his boat while in pursuit of a whale,  
Nov. 22, 1832, aged 19 years;

WILLIAM H. SWASEY,

Of schooner *T. Cash* of Fairhaven, Conn., was lost at sea with all her crew,  
April, 1850, aged 39 years.

Melville's reflections upon these tablets will serve today. "Oh! ye whose dead lie buried beneath the green grass; who standing among the flowers can say, 'Here, here lies my beloved; ye know not the desolation that broods in bosoms like these. What bitter blanks in those black-bordered marbles which cover no ashes! What despair in those immovable inscriptions! What deadly voids and unbidden infidelities in the lines which seem to gnaw upon all faith and refuse resurrection to the beings who have placelessly perished without a grave. As well might these tablets stand in the grave of Elephanta as here. But Faith, like a jackal, feeds among the tombs, and even from these dead doubts she gathers her most vital hope.'"

The chaplain whom Melville heard undoubtedly was Father Mudge. The author calls him Father Mapple in the book. The old pulpit was furnished with a side ladder and man ropes, which Melville affirms the chaplain mounted hand over hand, with reverential dexterity, as if ascending to the main top of his vessel. After gaining the height he stooped over and drew the ladder, leaving him impregnable. The paneled front of that old pulpit was in the likeness of a ship's bluff bows, and the Bible rested on a projecting piece of scroll-work fashioned after a ship's fiddle-headed beak. The service had a nautical flavor which has now departed. The present chaplain is a faithful worker among the sailors, but he would not be expected to instruct his congregation to gather about him in the vernacular which Melville attributes to Father Mapple: "Starboard gangway there! Side away to starboard—larboard gangway to starboard! Midships." The sermon on *Jonah* reported in the book is declared by those who remember Father Mudge not to bear much resemblance to his style. It is probably the sermon which Melville considered should have been preached to sailor folk.

There is a final description of the New Bedford which Melville saw when he left the harpooners, cannibals, sailors with beaver hats, swallow-tailed coats girdled with sailor belt and sheath knives, or wearing sou'westers and bombazine cloaks, who infested Water street in the whaling days, which will serve for a description of New Bedford today:

The town itself is perhaps the dearest place in all New England. It is a land of oil, true enough; but not like Canaan, a land also of corn and wine. The streets do not run milk, nor in the springtime do they pave them with fresh eggs; yet, in spite of this, nowhere in all America will you find more patrician-like houses, parks and gardens, more opulent than in New Bedford. Whence came they? How planted upon this once scraggy scoria of a country? Go and gaze upon the iron emblematical harpoons round yonder lofty mansion, and your question will be answered. Yes, all these brave houses and flowery gardens came from the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans. One and all they were harpooned and dragged up hither from the bottom of the sea.



**Whaling Disasters.**—When the Civil War broke out much of the wealth tied up in whalers was afloat on various seas. Twenty-five New Bedford whalers, with 2,742 barrels sperm and 4,150 barrels whale oil, were burned by Confederate cruisers. The value of the "Alabama" and "Shenandoah" vessels destroyed is given at \$1,150,000, of the oil at \$500,000, making a total of \$1,650,000. This was a crushing blow to the citizens, because it was a climax to a series of events which made the people of New Bedford apprehensive of the future.

The whaling industry was doomed by the discovery of petroleum, and the citizens knew it. The business men had made an attempt to stem the tide by forming an association to extend the uses of sperm oil and persist in its superiority, but they realized the hopelessness of the undertaking.

On Thanksgiving Day, less than a year before, the citizens had seen "The Stone Fleet," two proud squadrons, the pick of whalers, sail forth to be sunk at the mouth of southern harbors. It was as if the cotton mills which line the shore today were one day loaded aboard scows and carried to sea to be sunk. It was visible evidence of the destruction of the most unique industry which ever created the wealth of a city. And, following upon such a catastrophe, came the news that the few surviving whaleships on the seas were being picked off one by one, burned with their cargoes, and the officers and crews made prisoners. And the war was upon the land to add to the encircling gloom.

The news which created such a sensation fifty years ago came from a group of officers and men who had been paroled aboard the "Alabama," put aboard a passing ship and landed in New York. One or two of the owners were wise in their generation and had secured insurance a few days before. The owners of the bark "Virginia," for instance, Captain Frederick Tilton, which was valued at \$24,000, took out insurance for \$11,500 at noon of the very day on which the news was received. The owners of the bark "Elisha Dunbar," Captain David R. Gifford, took out insurance upon her for \$4,250 only two days before; her value was \$21,250.

Captain Tilton told a story which shows that the sending of the stone fleet from New Bedford was a matter of resentment to the privateers and blockade runners, whom the closing of the southern harbor channels was designed to annoy. When taken aboard the "Alabama," Captain Tilton asked to be released, as he was doing no one harm. "You Northerners are destroying our property," retorted Captain Semmes, "and New Bedford people are holding war meetings offering \$200 bounty for volunteers, and sending out stone fleet to blockade our harbors, and I am going to retaliate." Captain Tilton described the personal appearance of Captain Semmes in an interesting way. "He does everything in white kid gloves," he said, "and wears a heavy moustache, which he has waxed by his servant every morning." Captain Tilton told his fellow-citizens that Captain Semmes said he had burned the "Osceola" and nine other whalers before taking the "Virginia." Semmes, according to Captain Tilton, was very short in his remarks, and quick tempered, treating the prisoners brutally and unfeelingly. The under officers were of different dispositions, and some of them confessed to Captain Tilton they wished they were out of the business. Captain Tilton related the story of his capture as follows:

The pirate ship overtook us in lat. 39-100, long. 34-20. She first showed British colors, but when a quarter of a mile from the "Virginia" she set Confederate colors and sent an armed boat's crew aboard. I was informed the vessel was a prize to the "Alabama," and ordered to take my papers and go aboard the steamer. The pirates then stripped the ship of all valuable articles, and at 4 p. m. set fire to her. I went on the quarterdeck of the "Alabama" with my son, when they sent us into the lee waist with the crew. All were ironed except two boys, the cook and the steward. I asked if I was to be ironed, and the reply was that the vessel's purser had been in irons aboard the United States vessel and his head shaved. He proposed to retaliate. We were put in the lee waist with an old mattress and a few blankets upon which to lie. The steamer's guns were run out the side and the ports could not be shut. So when the sea was rough and the vessel rolled the water washed the decks and we were wet all of the time. Often we would wake at night with a sea pouring over us. Our food consisted of beef, pork, rice, ham, tea, coffee and bread. Only one of our irons was taken off at a time. We were always under guard. On October 3d we fell in with the schooner "Emily Farnham," to which we were transferred after signing a parole.

Many years after, another generation, in many instances, received a windfall from the payment of the "Alabama" claims. There were many survivors also living who profited at a time when they were in need of money, and, as it turned out, the men were amply compensated for all they lost and suffered. The testimony before the Court of Claims is a marvel in the revelations of the outfits which the sailors carried in their chests. Captain Semmes may have been a dandy, but the humblest sailor could have put him in the shade, as far as clothes were concerned, if the schedule of the outfits as sworn to at court were honest.

Another terrible disaster followed in September, 1871, when one day thirty-three New Bedford ships, crushed or frozen, were abandoned in the Arctic ocean. Twelve hundred men were there shipwrecked, but all of them were ultimately rescued. With the oil and bone which the ships had on board they were valued at \$1,090,000. In 1876 twelve whalers were abandoned in the Arctic, and in 1888 five more were lost.

Steam whaling prospered for a time, whalebone selling at fancy prices, but there is no longer a market for whalebone. A group of men cornered all the whalebone in the country and shipped it to New Bedford, which is the world's market place for Arctic bone, and held it at five dollars a pound. They held it. The use of whalebone had finally become restricted to corset manufacture and to some extent in dresses. In the old days when whalebone was cheap and hoopskirts were in vogue it was commonly used in the latter, as well as in dresses and stays and corsets. Whips were made of it, and it was used for umbrella frames. Steel was employed later as a substitute for most of these uses, but for a long time after the wider utility had disappeared it was employed by the best corset and dressmakers, and there was a large market abroad, particularly in France. But when the price was put up to five dollars a pound the corsetmakers declared it prohibitive and turned to substitutes. Now "bones" for corsets and dresses are made of a celluloid substance which is said to be quite as good, if not superior. The whalemens blame "the Trust" for the ruin of the industry, but while the high price may have hastened the day of substitutes the substitutes would have been produced in any event. Moreover, the owners of the whalebone supply declare that in order to make any profit bone must command five dollars a pound. This does not represent cost, they say, if



INTERIOR OF SEAMEN'S BETHEL, SHOWING THE CENOTAPHS





the risks of the business and the loss of vessels engaged in the Arctic industry are considered. Arctic whaling scarcely gave the owner of the ship a gambler's chance. A ship might encounter one closed season after another when the ships could not get to the eastward, and vessels were so frequently caught and crushed in the ice floes that the industry as a whole was seldom profitable. Still there was always the chance that a vessel might make a catch worth a hundred thousand dollars in a summer's work, and this was sufficient incentive for the daring whalers.

Whalebone requires constant attention. It must be scraped every few months or it loses its virtue. So the value of it constantly deteriorates, and that is one reason, maybe, why "the Trust" finds it difficult to dispose of its bone. "The Trust" does not send ships into the Arctic now. The few vessels that go are largely old vessels, bought cheap by old whaling captains, who finance their own voyages. The opportunities for trading kept the industry alive longer than otherwise, but the natives prefer to trade for rum, and the revenue cutters prevent the whalers from engaging in trade on that basis. So most of the Eskimo trade now goes to the shore traders, who are under less close surveillance.

Since the great war, prices of sperm oil have gone up and a fleet of schooners is making handsome profits on Atlantic voyages. These are short voyages of a duration of a year or two. In the old days, voyages usually lasted four or five years, which gives point to an old whaler's story: A New Bedford captain had spent a jolly night with his companions, and at daylight started to go aboard his ship. One of his companions grabbed him by the arm as he was about to leave the dock in a small boat. "I say, captain, you've forgotten to kiss your wife good-bye." "Hell!" said the captain, "I'm only going to be gone two years!"

A few of the old ships are still engaged. The whaling bark "Charles W. Morgan" is receiving special consideration in these days, since she is the only typical old whaling square-rigger in port, and there will never be any more of them. One or two remnants of the fleet are at sea, and put in an occasional appearance here, but none are so picturesque and typical of old whaling models as the "Morgan." The "Morgan" is seventy-seven years old, and is still in commission. She was built in 1841 by the man for whom she was named. Her first captain was named Norton, and she sailed September 4, 1841, and arrived back April 1, 1845, with 1,600 barrels of sperm oil, 800 barrels of whale oil, and 10,000 pounds of whalebone. She sailed again on January 19, 1846, under command of Captain J. D. Sampson, and returned December 9, 1848, with 2,100 barrels of sperm oil and 100 barrels of whale oil, having sent home seventy barrels of sperm oil. Her ownership was then transferred to Edward Mott Robinson, the father of Hetty Green. Captain Sampson still commanded her on a voyage to the Pacific, which started on June 5, 1849. In May, 1853, she returned with 1,121 barrels of oil. The firm of I. Howland, Jr., & Company owned her when she sailed the following September for the North Pacific in command of Captain Tristram P. Ripley. She returned in 1856 with 12,000 pounds of whalebone, having sent home 10,000 pounds of bone, 1,958 barrels of whale oil and 268 barrels of sperm. Captain Thomas J. Fisher commanded her in 1856, when she again sailed for the North Pacific, returning three years



later with 28,700 pounds of whalebone, 18,000 barrels of whale oil, and 135 barrels of sperm. Next she sailed on a four years' voyage in command of James A. Hamilton, returning from the North Pacific in 1863 with 28,834 pounds of whalebone, 4,080 barrels of whale oil, and 135 barrels of sperm. In December, 1863, the "Morgan" came into the ownership of J. & W. R. Wing. Captain Thomas C. Landers took her to the North Pacific, once more in command of Captain George Athearn, when she took 3,000 pounds of bone; and in 1871 she went to the Indian ocean in command of Captain John M. Tinkhain, and took 1,600 pounds of bone. On a later occasion she went to Desolation islands on a sea elephant expedition. The "Morgan" repeatedly rounded Cape Horn, but these experiences never weakened her, and she has continued making long voyages to the stormiest seas in her career.

---

## CHAPTER IV.

### PERIOD FROM 1778 UNTIL 1812

There seems to be but little to record after the British raid on New Bedford until the close of the Revolution. In 1783 signs of improvement there were on every hand; men of capital began to rebuild the waste places; shops, warehouses and wharves went up here and there; new vessels were constructed and launched, and it was only a few years before the New Bedford fleet was strong. But the advent of the Napoleonic wars of the early part of the nineteenth century, abridging American rights on the seas, made the intervening years between 1789 and 1812 a period of American uncertainty to the floating commerce of the newly created nation. This, with the impressment of American seamen, was the prime cause for the second war with Great Britain, and the confiscation of American ships and cargoes by the French government led to the French spoilation claims, paid by France to the United States. New Bedford suffered much from these conditions, her merchants and vessel owners losing both ships and goods. The village was almost prostrate again after having so well recovered after the close of the Revolution. In 1787 smallpox visited the town, its effects being so serious that public action was taken. A pest house was erected upon land belonging to Ebenezer Willis, who was allowed six shillings for every person taken into the house. In 1781 the smallpox again broke out, with far more fatal results than before. More than one hundred persons died from this epidemic.

The first newspaper, "The Medley, or New Bedford Marine Journal," made its first appearance November 27, 1792, edited and printed by John Spooner, near Rotch Wharf. In 1793 a post route was established by Samuel Sprague from New Bedford to Barnstable, via Rochester, Wareham and Sandwich, returning through Plymouth and Middleboro. Weekly communication with Boston was maintained by William Henshaw's stage line that left New Bedford at nine o'clock in the morning, arriving at Taunton the evening of the same day. The fare was three pence per mile. Abraham Russell ran a stage to Boston in 1794, at three dollars for each

passenger. The street was opened over the mill-dam in Fairhaven in 1795, the record saying of New Bedford at that date, that it contained 454 houses and 1,313 inhabitants. In 1796 the New Bedford and Fairhaven bridge was incorporated. This so altered the current of the river that it washed the channel full of sand, and completely ruined the business of the town. The bridge was washed away in a very high tide in 1807, was rebuilt, and again destroyed in the gale of September, 1815; then again rebuilt in 1819, and also has been rebuilt many times since that date. In 1800 the toll charge was: Each foot passenger, 4 cents; each horse and person, 12 cents; each chaise or sulkey, 25 cents; each sleigh drawn by one horse, 18 cents; and 6 cents for each additional horse. For each coach, phaeton, curricule or four-wheeled carriage of burthen drawn by two beasts, 25 cents. For the privilege of rolling a wheelbarrow or handcart over the bridge, 6 cents. For droves of sheep, swine, cattle or horses with one driver, per dozen, 6 cents.

The twentieth anniversary of American independence was celebrated in New Bedford with great rejoicing, the artillery company under Captain Ayers taking an important part. The celebration included an oration by Rev. Samuel West, D. D., an eloquent divine, and a public dinner was served.

Upon the death of President Washington, December 14, 1799, news did not reach New Bedford until December 22. On the day of the memorial services a procession was formed by Colonels Pope, Kempton, Claghorn, and Captain Bryant. The procession was composed of the artillery and militia companies; Washington Remembrance Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; the orator of the day was Rev. John Briggs, of Trenton; the clergy and choir of singers; civil officers; and school children, each with a black ribbon on the left arm. While the procession moved, the bells tolled and minute guns were discharged. In the harbor the vessels all placed their flags at halfmast.

A fatal fever swept the town during September and October, 1801, exciting much alarm and causing eleven deaths. The Bedford Bank was incorporated April 2, 1803, by Thomas Hazzard, Jr., Edward Pope and Seth Russell, Jr. On September 26, 1804, Joseph Willard, D. D., LL.D., president of Harvard University, died here, at the home of Edward Pope. The years until 1812 seem to have been years of plenty and prosperity and patriotic development. Each succeeding Fourth of July was loyally celebrated, and military organizations continued a lively existence.

The town of New Bedford had been set off from Dartmouth and incorporated in 1787, and the first town meeting was held March 2, in the Congregational church. The town was divided into four districts, separated north and south by the harbor and the river, and east and west by the highway beginning in the line between this town and that of Dartmouth at the bridge about twenty rods eastward of the house of James Peckham, deceased, last built, and leading easterly to the bridge at the head of the harbor, and thence still easterly by the dwelling house of Hannaniah Cornish to Rochester line. The town cast its first vote for governor as follows: James Bowdoin, 41; John Hancock, 171. Selectmen were at first: John West, Isaac Pope, William Tallman; clerk and treasurer, John Pickens; assessors: Bartholomew Aiken, Joseph Taber, Thomas Kempton; sur-



veyors of lumber: Benjamin Taber, Benjamin Dillingham, Bartholomew Aiken, Jethro Allen; inspector of fish, Peleg Huttleson.

---

## CHAPTER V.

### EARLY LANDED PROPRIETORS

From an account written for county history purposes by Henry B. Worth, the subjoined facts concerning the early land owners and farmers of New Bedford, two centuries ago, have been here relied upon as accurate. The details he gives have necessarily been shortened for lack of space in this work.

All New Bedford was divided into eleven farms two hundred years ago. For half a century its wealth was gained by tilling the soil, and the tracts from Clark's cove to the head of the Acushnet river, then a part of the town of Dartmouth, were opened by primitive farmers. There is no record of any commerce or whaling, and the only cloth manufacturing was the product of the hand-spinning wheels and hand-looms. Benjamin Allen owned the southwestern tract, including Clark's Point, valuable on account of its long shore front. The Ward family owned a thousand acres north and south of the Allen property, sixteen hundred acres at the head of the river, and a part of the Cuttyhunk and Nashawena. The homestead of the first Joseph Russell was the farm between Thompson and Grinnell streets. John Russell was a member of the Dartmouth Society of Friends. John Russell, Jr., owned the property between Russell and Spring streets, with his dwelling near the head of Walnut street. His son Joseph, the third of the name, was accounted the richest man in the village; his estate showed £5200 real estate, and £1200 personal. Ephraim Kempton settled in 1737, and built a one-story three-room dwelling. About this time settled Captain Seth Pope, Samuel Willis, Stephen Peckham, Samuel Jenney, John Hathaway; a little later came what are sometimes styled the settlers of 1760, including Russell and Colonel Willis, two wealthy men who owned farms and mills. The only traces of affluence are to be discovered in the probate records, where there may be occasional mention of bonds, notes, a few books, or some other household luxury. A new order of things had been ushered in. The people were soon to engage in another industry for gaining their livelihood. Wealth no longer came from the soil, but from the riches found in the briny deep. Joseph Russell, grandson of the American ancestor of that name, inherited the homestead farm, and he also purchased a part of the Kempton tract. Russell decided to engage in the fishing industry, and especially in whaling. On the shore, near the foot of Union street, he sold off lots of land, and the village was first called New Settlement, and a few years later, Bedford, still later changed to New Bedford. With the money received from the sale of his lands, Joseph Russell possessed about \$8,000. Just before the War for Independence he had sold all his shore front north of Madison except a small tract. In these days blubber was brought by whaling vessels to the home port and tried out on shore. The Russell candle works was located between Centre street and

Rose alley, west of Front street, and the try-works a short distance to the north. Before his death in 1806, Russell had sold in house lots all of his farm east of County street and north of Madison. Like most merchants in his day, he had a license to sell liquors, the same being granted from 1773 to 1775.

Bedford Village received among its residents just before 1770, three men who were of the Society of Friends, who exerted a powerful influence financially. These men included Joseph Rotch and Captain Isaac Howland. Rotch had much ability as a man to gain wealth. He appeared on the scene of activity first at Nantucket, about 1725, and in 1733 married Love Macy, in Friends' meeting. It was once written of Rotch by F. E. Sanford that "Rotch cobbled shoes in the front shop and sold West Indies goods in the other." In 1784, at his death, he was counted the wealthiest of all the settlers. His dwelling stood on the southwest corner of Water and Williams streets, and it was burned by the British in 1778. He next built at the corner of Union and Bethel. Captain Isaac Howland came from Round Hill, Dartmouth, at the end of Smith's Neck. He had been a captain on the seas, but he changed for business on land; two of his daughters married sons of Joseph Russell. In 1770 he must have been a well-to-do man, for he had in 1774, as a member of the Society of Friends, to free his slaves. Others of his class had to do the same; these men were William Sanford, Peleg Slocum, John and Joseph Russell. Howland conducted a distillery on the north side of Commercial street, where the stone block now stands. Benjamin Taber, boat-builder and block-maker, in 1765 bought the lot on the north side of Union street, between Water street and the river. He built the wharf named for him, now owned by the city.

The Revolutionary War almost destroyed all industries; losses up to 1778 were estimated at near a half million dollars. Between the two conflicts with England, New Bedford not only regained all loss incurred, but grew in importance almost to become a rival of Nantucket, the center of the whale fisheries of the world. It was during this period that the foundations for the many subsequent fortunes were laid. The leaders in finance and enterprise generally were then John and Isaac Howland. Also Joseph Russell and the Kemptons were forehanded, and whenever they saw a chance to invest they took advantage of it and were usually highly successful. Others of financial far-seeing vision were George Tyson, who married a daughter of Seth Russell; and Captain Cornelius Grinnell, one of the incorporators of the Bedford Bank in 1803. But, towering over all others, were William Rotch and son William and the allied families of Samuel Rodman and Thomas Hazzard. The last named settled in New Bedford in 1792, engaged in whaling, and became rich. He was elected first president of the Bedford Bank, and was one of the six incorporators of the New Bedford and Fairhaven Bridge Company. Shortly after the close of the Revolution, Hazzard removed to New York City. Gilbert Russell was another successful whaling merchant, but his name seems not to have been flaunted as was the case of others engaged in like business. At his death, after having given lavishly to his children, he left an estate valued at more than \$70,000.

Near 1800 there appeared in New Bedford several young men who later



came to be known as financial leaders, among whom was John Avery Parker. In 1816 he was one of the directors of the Bedford Commercial Bank. In 1825 he organized the Merchants' Bank, and was its president until his death in 1854. His estate was valued at \$1,200,000, making him the richest man in New Bedford at that date. He made his wealth largely by whaling. At first he was associated with Seth Russell & Sons. George Howland came from Long Plain as a clerk in the counting room of William Rotch, but soon forged to the front and at the age of thirty-five was president of the Bedford Bank, and serving till his death. At one time he owned ten whaling ships, was connected with many enterprises, and was possessed of wealth sufficient at death to be classed among the few millionaires. Another important factor was James Arnold, who came from Rhode Island and married a daughter of William Rotch, Jr. He became wealthy as a member in the William Rotch, Jr. & Company concern. He was broad-minded and sound in financial judgment, resulting in his becoming rich, and was also noted for his philanthropy. His improvements consisted in creating "Arnold Garden," a famous point for sight-seers. His estate was estimated at his passing to be \$1,400,000.

The increase of population following the Revolutionary War resulted in the building of two meeting houses. The Dartmouth Monthly Meeting of the Friends on the north side of Spring street, including New Bedford, had its meeting house at the head of the Acushnet, on the hill east of the village. Dr. Samuel West was the minister.

The public house was an important feature in every colonial village, especially on the seaboard. Then liquor was as much an article of necessity in a grocery store as molasses, and in old-time advertisements both articles are quoted together. It was then no discredit to deal out rum to customers, and as a matter of fact, its use was not abused as it has been since that time. Captain Seth Pope, Richard Pierce, minister of the gospel; Colonel Samuel Willis and his son, Colonel Ebenezer; John Wady and Samuel Sprague, were licensed retailers of liquor. John Garrish opened an inn in 1780 and continued to conduct it for thirty years; it carried the sign of the Swan. Under the sign of the Golden Ball, the large hotel at the corner of Union and Water streets was conducted as long ago as a half century; Joshua Crocker was landlord in 1810, Joseph B. Peabody had it later and changed its name to that of the New Bedford Hotel; in 1824 it was called the Washington House. The Eagle House dated back to 1807; in 1824 Barney Corey took the house over and made it very successful. On the east side of the river were also numerous hotels, then known as inns, however.

The War of 1812 being largely a naval contest, checked all business for the time being. Abraham Russell seems to have been the only man who lost all by reason of that struggle with the Mother Country. In 1822 a local surveyor named John Pickens recorded that there were fifteen wharves and eight spermaceti factories, and the same number of wharves, at New Bedford. There were two rope-walks in the south part of town. The fortunes begun before the War of 1812 were greatly increased before the opening of the Civil War. The whaling industry was the money-maker of all others the most successfully operated. Shipbuilding never produced



much in way of fortunes at this point. Ships were owned by several individuals. The agent or managing owner generally had the largest share, and he was usually a grocer or clothier. Then the sail-boat and spar-worker, cordage manufacturer and nautical men of every line, owned a fraction, and each was patronized in his particular business. One of the wealthiest men of the present century, Rodolphus Beetle, until a few years ago had a spar-yard. A few years ago Richard Curtis, a rigger, startled his friends by having an estate of \$185,000, and in a few years later James D. Driggs, a ship blacksmith, left a snug fortune. Within a few years John R. Shurtleff, a sail-maker, died leaving \$250,000.

After the War of 1812 one of the important events was the rechartering of the Bedford Commercial Bank, in 1816. This bank and its successor, the Bank of Commerce, had a building on the west side of Water street that occupied the south part of the lot now covered by the new Bank building that was given to the Old Dartmouth Historical Society. From 1825 on, New Bedford capital was combined in all sorts of corporations, and for a city of its size there was more wealth than in any locality in the world.

---

## CHAPTER VI.

### FROM 1812 TO 1830

The city of New Bedford of today (1923) as compared to the village of a century ago, seems to bear but little relationship. Even the river front has so materially changed that if a pioneer should be allowed to view it now, he would not think it possible that he had ever looked upon the same locality. The village of then is now the sprightly city of more than 125,000 souls. The fields, meadows and dense forests of then have been transformed into mammoth mills and factory plants, fine stores, solid business blocks, and beautifully paved streets. In 1815 the entire town contained only five hundred and six houses. Walnut street was its southern border; beyond was all woods, only broken by the County road, which led to Clark's cove.

A fearful wind-storm of September 29, 1815, was the severest and most violent ever witnessed in the place, before or since. The tide rose ten feet above normal high water and four feet higher than there had ever been record of there before. So rapid was the rise that occupants in stores and shops situated along the river front were obliged to leave them, abandoning all of their contents; several merchants lost all merchandise and their books and papers of value. Several lives were lost. The New Bedford salt-works were swept away, and the rope-walks were partly destroyed. A carding mill and boat-loading shop were destroyed, together with Cannon's tallow chandlery, a row of stores at Rotch's wharf, besides many lesser pieces of property. The Bedford-Fairhaven bridge was carried away; sixteen vessels moored at the wharves were blown adrift. War and the elements seemed to conspire against Bedford and New Bedford, but in five years it had well picked up. There was no bank in operation then, but in 1812 the Bedford Bank was established. In 1816 the Bedford Commercial

Bank was chartered, with George Howland as president. This was the first strong evidence of the revival of confidence. In 1818 there were registered at the U. S. Custom House fifteen ships, eleven brigs, ten schooners and fourteen sloops.

In 1819 a vigorous temperance movement sought to suppress the sale of "cider and other intoxicating liquors to minors, so that their morals may not be corrupted and their future prospects blasted by habits they have acquired in youth."

A stage route was established from Newport to Providence via Stone Bridge in November, 1820. Daniel Whitaker's Classical School was opened April 22, 1821. The "Cold Day" memorable in the place was January 19, 1821, when the thermometer registered twelve degrees below zero. A market-house was opened to the public December 14, 1822; the building was later used for the Central police station. June 6, 1825, Benjamin Lindsay opened a reading room that for sixty years continued to be headquarters for the business men of the town. In the summer and autumn of 1826, in days of prosperity, a lawless element sought to "run the town." What is styled the Ark riots took place at about that date. There were two notorious resorts within the limits of the town, one known as the "Ark," from its having been constructed from parts of an abandoned vessel; the other was styled the "Hard Dig." Both were destroyed by crowbar and flames, and thus ended for a time the work of lawless men and women in New Bedford. In the spring of 1829 the Elm Street Methodist Episcopal Church was burned. The basement was filled with casks of oil, which had they taken fire would have spread the conflagration to all parts of the town. It was believed that the frequenters of the "Ark" thus retaliated for the burning of their resort. Another "Ark" was constructed, but met with about the same fate as the first. The town was placed voluntarily under a "Committee of Vigilance," for some time after these fires. At the annual town meeting in 1830 the boundaries of streets and roads were fixed and monuments placed permanently. The quantity of oil brought to town in 1830 was 41,000 barrels of sperm, and 43,135 barrels of whale oil, and ten spermaceti candle factories were in operation. In 1795 the place had a population of 1,000; in 1830 it was 7,695.

From 1830 to 1840 was a period of general prosperity, although marked by a number of disasters, including the "second great fire," which started on Sunday morning, July 25, 1830, in the dwelling house of William H. Allen, now the corner of School and Seventh streets. The loss fell heavily on Dudley Davenport, whose large wood-working shop was totally destroyed. It was during 1830 that vigorous action was taken to prevent so much liquor being consumed in the place; the selectmen were asked to refuse permits to more than five grogshops. The first flagged streets appeared in 1832. Penny-post-delivery for letters began in 1832, Richard Williams being postmaster. Asiatic cholera that swept over the United States that year, was kept away from New Bedford by very strict rules of precaution. The "Courier" of August 17, 1832, published a record of the facts concerning the raising of the North Christian Church building, which was ninety feet long, seventy feet wide and one hundred and forty-five feet to the top of the spire; this work was accomplished in three days by twenty



men under the direction of the Messrs. Davenport. This was the largest piece of work in Bristol county up to that date, and strange to relate (for those days), not a drop of liquor was used in the "raising". Another destructive fire occurred in November, 1834.

An anti-slavery society was formed at Lyceum Hall in June, 1834. The temperance question kept lively, and the local paper stated that "the favorable state of affairs in New Bedford today as concerns grogshops and liquor elements, is due undeniably to the earnest efforts of the citizens a generation ago to suppress intemperance and the sale of ardent spirits." Doubtless it never entered into the dreams of any mortal along the Atlantic coast at that early date that in three-quarters of a century every legalized saloon in the United States would be closed by authority of the people's voice, working through a constitutional amendment.

The Fourth of July, 1836, was celebrated with unusual ceremony. All vessels in the harbor were brilliant with flags; the U. S. revenue cutter "McLean" fired sunrise salute, and in the evening was gayly illuminated; a procession marched through the streets, and listened to an oration from that wonderful anti-slavery advocate, Wendell Phillips. The same year (1837) the first directory of the town was published by J. C. Parmenter, edited by Henry H. Crapo; subscription price fifty cents; extra binding seventy-five cents. Subscription books were opened in 1838 for New Bedford's first railroad project—the New Bedford & Taunton railroad, and in less than eighteen months trains were running into New Bedford. In 1838-39 much street paving was done.

---

## CHAPTER VII.

### MILITARY HISTORY.

Preceding chapters have given the important facts concerning the War for Independence; also much concerning the privateer system of American warfare, and now the reader is referred to the second war with Great Britain, the War of 1812-14. It was on June 18, 1812, that war was declared by Congress, and the following day President Madison made public proclamation of the fact. Bedford was then strongly allied with the Federalists, Fairhaven being equally pronounced in its loyalty to the party of which Jefferson and Madison were the great leaders. The Federal party opposed the war, and so did New Bedford; Fairhaven supported the war. The two villages held many a fierce debate in the old town hall situated at the Parting of the Ways. But in 1812 the town of Bedford was divided, and Fairhaven was set off from her olden and long-time rival. The sentiment in New Bedford may be understood by the following resolution passed by the town meeting in May, 1812: "We view with extreme regret and apprehension an impending war with Great Britain, which in our opinion will be disturbing and ruinous to our country, destructive to our commerce, and cause a heavy increase in direct taxation. Ruinous, as it would lead to an alliance with France, to which nation has hitherto acceded without loss of its liberty and independence."

**War of 1812-14.**—As soon as the news of war was made known, the "New Bedford Mercury" expressed itself: "The awful calamity is at length officially announced. A war which has so long been predicted by the wise, ridiculed by the weak, deprecated by the honest, and courted by the wicked, is officially announced. Never have we seen dismay so generally and forcibly depicted on the features of our fellow-citizens as at this portentous moment. The hand of enterprise is withered and the heart is sickened, the hard-earned treasures of industry are dissolved, and the business of life seems to pause in awful suspense." Without doubt this expressed the honest opinion of a majority living in New England. New Bedford's fears were well grounded. During the first three months after war commenced, eight vessels belonging to this port were captured by the English, the total cargo of these boats being \$218,000. The entire period of this war was fraught with terror and privation in all the coast towns of New England, but New Bedford, although often threatened, escaped attack. England did not believe America could muster much of a navy, but in this she was disappointed, for America had a strong fleet that swept the seas and captured more than fifteen hundred vessels. The harbor of New Bedford was ideal as a rendezvous for privateers, as privateer boats in this port were frequent in 1813 and 1814. During 1814 the British naval force in the United States waters was greatly increased and the New England coast swarmed with English frigates, gun-boats or bun-brigs, as well as privateers. The seaboard towns were helpless, the troops all having been withdrawn for service in Canada. Later in the year a thousand soldiers were stationed along the harbor shores. How New Bedford was affected is shown in the many captures of her ships. While her losses from naval and privateering vessels was great, it remained for the British brig "Nimrod" to be the reigning terror of New Bedford, and the whole southern coast. She mounted sixteen 34-pounders, two long nines and one eighteen-pounder. January 28, 1814, the "Nimrod" bombarded Falmouth, injuring thirty houses, though no lives were lost. New Bedford was in a state of constant dread and alarm. April 15, 1814, the British war vessels, "Victorious," "Endymion" and "Peacock," made their appearance in Vineyard Sound, and it was said were to attack New Bedford, but this proved a false alarm. The guns at Phoenix, June 13, 1814, gave notice of the approach of seven or eight barges. The weather was hazy, the barges were not discovered until close to the fort, but the preparation for their reception was so evident that they withdrew. Twelve vessels were set on fire, five of which were totally consumed. The cotton factory was also fired, but the flames were extinguished after the departure of the invaders. On September 27 and 28, 1814, five hundred soldiers marched into the village from towns in the northern part of Bristol county on their way to assigned stations along the seacoast. The village was under strict military rule for several months, and on August 12, 1814, Charles Gilbert was shot dead by a sentry on duty near the gun-house at the corner of South Sixth and Spring streets. Gilbert did not respond when the sentry asked for the countersign, although he was loyal and in possession of it, his intention no doubt being to test the fidelity of the sentry.

There were never records available as to Dartmoor prisoners nor of the Americans held in other English prisons, but scores of sailors belonging



to New Bedford and neighboring towns were taken from merchant ships and either forced into the British service or confined in English prisons for refusing to fight against their own flag. There were confined in Dartmoor prison fifteen men. There also died at the same prison place, seven men. There were many New Bedford men in the army and navy, but no company was recruited entirely from the village. A number of citizens exempt from military duty organized themselves into an independent company under Captain Robert Taber and Lieutenant Haskell. This company was later commanded by Captain John Avery Parker, later president of the First National Bank of New Bedford. But the end was near, and on December 24, 1814, a treaty of peace was signed at Ghent between the United States and Great Britain, a bond that has stood for over a century, although sometimes sorely strained; and now the two nations have recently been engaged in the World War as allies. If New Bedford, like all New England, had been lukewarm in supporting the war, she was most energetic and vociferous in welcoming peace. It was eleven o'clock on Monday night, February 21, 1815, when Alexander Townsend of Boston rode into Bedford village with the glad tidings of peace. In a few moments church bells were clanging, the news spread quickly, and the whole town was alive with demonstrations of joy.

The celebration of peace and the birthday of Washington, February 22, 1815, was a notable day. The flags of the United States, England, France, Portugal, Denmark and Sweden, flew from buildings and ships, the bells continued their clamor of praise and thanksgiving, salutes were fired, and in spite of its being stormy, the people gave themselves to the full enjoyment of the day. The celebration culminated in the evening with a grand display of fire-works, transparencies, and illumination of the town, the houses of Bedford village and Fairhaven being brilliant with lighted candles in the windows. 'Mid the roar of cannon and peal of bells and the discharge of fire-works, the celebration came to an end and the people retired to their homes conscious that an era of prosperity was at hand. Though the wheels of industry had long since ceased to move, the fleet that had brought prosperity was gone, shops and ship-yards were closed and the port closed against every enterprise, provisions were high and but little money in circulation, hope ran high, and that this spirit of optimism was justified results quickly proved. The paralyzed industries quickly recovered; shops, rope-walks, riggers, lofts, and ship-yards sprang into being and fairly hummed with activity; the wharves were alive with the fitting-out of ships, and the "Mercury" that had for many months been bare of maritime news was soon recording the arrival and departure of a goodly fleet of vessels, and prosperity followed.

**The Civil War.**—Whatever may have been said concerning lukewarmness in military affairs in New Bedford prior to the Civil War, it must be placed to her credit that in that war for the Union of States she was never lacking in patriotism. In response to President Lincoln's call for 75,000 men, it was only four days after Fort Sumter was fired upon before this place saw 3,200 men (1,110 more than quota called for) taking the train for the seat of war. Home defense was immediately undertaken by putting Fort Phoenix in good order, and for the erection of a land battery at Clark's Point which mounted three twenty-four pounders.

The Ladies' Soldiers' Relief Society was formed, and work at once commenced; the reports show that this society donated in cash over \$20,000; in cotton goods and flannels \$4,000; and in hospital stores \$6,000. Among the items these ladies furnished the boys at the front during that long drawn-out war may be noted: 5,904 flannel shirts, 3887 pairs of drawers, 4,573 pairs of woolen socks, 1,790 towels, 94 coats, 76 waist coats, 1,837 pocket handkerchiefs, 368 cravats, 314 dressing gowns, 679 pairs of slippers, 265 pairs of woolen mittens, 524 blankets, 515 sheets, 678 pillows, 758 quilts, 988 canes, and 1,280 woolen undershirts. In addition, \$500 was given by a lady to pay soldiers' wives for sewing. Mrs. Joseph Delano was president of the society, organized April 11, 1861—remember the date—Mrs. Lawrence Grinnell, vice-president; Mrs. William Eddy, secretary-treasurer. The city authorities were most generous in financial support of all true war measures, and gave every aid possible, freely and promptly. Companies A, Captain Henry F. Thomas; B, Captain William S. Cobb, and C, Captain George A. Bourne, were formed for home defense; and an artillery company was organized under the command of General James D. Thompson to garrison the forts, an appropriation of \$5,000 being made for the support of the home and coast guard. July 10, 1862, \$7,500 was appropriated to establish a general hospital for the sick and wounded soldiers, "provided the government should decide to locate one here." A bounty for volunteers was fixed at \$100 for each volunteer for three years' service, and \$26,000 was appropriated for this purpose. August 15, the bounty was increased to \$250, and \$20,000 set apart for its payment. August 29, \$200 was offered for nine months men, and \$25,000 was appropriated for this expense. October 21, \$5,000 additional was voted for the home and coast guard, and a further appropriation of \$20,000 made for the bounties. This was increased in December to \$26,000. During the four years' war this city expended \$125,495.85 for the support of the families of volunteers, and in addition \$177,000 in other ways on account of the war. A wonderful record indeed. July 4, 1866, impressive ceremonies were had at the cornerstone laying for a soldiers' monument, which was dedicated later.

As in the Revolution and War of 1812, New Bedford suffered great losses to her marine industries, and for the third time now saw her vessels swept from the seas by enemy ships. The whaling fleet suffered heavily, the privateer "Alabama" in particular creating sad havoc. Of the forty-six vessels destroyed, twenty-five were from New Bedford. The estimated value of the whale ships destroyed was \$1,150,000 and of oil, \$500,000.

Coming now to speak briefly of the brave men who entered the Union army from New Bedford, let it be said that thirteen different commands—regiments or companies—went forth with representatives from this city. They are as follows:

Field and staff officers of Third Massachusetts Regiment; also line officers, Company D, 23rd Massachusetts Regiment, saw hard service, for on its flags were inscribed these battles—Roanoke, Newbern, Rawles Mills, Kinston, Goldsboro, Wilcox Bridge, Newton, Smithfield, Hackman's Farm, Arrowfield Church, Drury's Bluff, and Cold Harbor. It was mustered out at Readville, July 12, 1865.

The Fifth Battery was the outgrowth of the military company organized at New Bedford for coast defense in the summer of 1861. Most all of the officers were New Bedford men. Max Eppendorf was captain when it left for the front. This was one of the fighting units of the Army of the Potomac, and took part in such awful en-



gagements as Yorktown, Hanover Courthouse, Mechanicsville, Gaines Mills, Malvern Hill, Second Bull Run, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Rappahannock Station, Mine Run, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Run; and was mustered out June 12, 1865.

Company I, 33rd Regiment, was recruited from New Bedford, Colonel A. G. Magg commanding. The regiment was mustered in, August, 1862, and mustered out July 13, 1865.

Companies E, F and G, Third Regiment, were mustered from New Bedford. This regiment saw hard service, but never complained, though marching under the sun when the temperature read 107 in the shade, and again when water froze in their canteens. They were discharged at Boston, June 22, 1863.

Company A, 41st Regiment, was raised in New Bedford in August, 1862, largely composed of New Bedford men. They were mustered into service in November, with John F. Vinal as captain. They were furnished cavalry equipment May 11, 1863, by a special order and created a permanent regiment, and for the rest of the service were known as the Third Massachusetts Cavalry. They were mustered out in May, 1865, taking part in the Grand Review at Washington. Other than the original soldiers in this regiment were retained longer and sent to Kansas and Nebraska for frontier service, but were discharged in October, 1865. Captain Vinal was promoted to lieutenant-colonel in 1864. On the regimental flag was inscribed the names of battles: Irish Bend, Henderson Hill, Cane River, Port Hudson, Sabine Cross Roads, Muddy Bayou, Snag Point, Bayou de Glaize, Yellow Bayou, Opequan Creek, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek.

Company D, 47th Regiment, was recruited in the autumn of 1862 for nine months' service, and was largely from New Bedford. Austin S. Cushman was major. This regiment was mustered out September 1, 1863, having been on service at New Orleans chiefly.

The 54th Regiment was the first regiment of colored troops to be raised in the State, and was commanded by Robert G. Shaw, whose monument now stands on the Common at Boston. Company C was recruited from New Bedford, and forty-six men were from the city. The captain was James W. Grace. They served well and were honorably discharged on Boston Common, September 1, 1865. It was during the assault on Fort Wagner that Sergeant William H. Carney, of New Bedford, seeing the regimental color bearer disabled, threw away his gun, seized the colors, made his way to the head of the charging column, and after the charge, although shot twice, brought the colors back and proudly proclaimed, "The old flag never touched the ground boys!"

Company B, Third Regiment, Heavy Artillery, was raised in New Bedford in the spring of 1863, and with eight other companies were detailed for garrison duty at Massachusetts coast forts. The captain was John A. P. Allen. It was finally on duty in defense of the National capital. Captain Allen was promoted to major. The regiment's record reads, "executed their duties fearlessly and well."

Company B, Fourth Regiment Cavalry, was largely composed of New Bedford men, and went to the front commanded by Captain George R. Hurlbert. The regiment acted well the part of brave men and were mustered out November 14, 1865.

The last infantry regiment mustered into the United States service from Massachusetts was the 58th, the organization being completed April, 1864. It was largely composed of men who had seen former service in the Civil War, and was largely veteran. Company E was raised in New Bedford, and left for the front in command of Captain William E. Mason. Few regiments rendered more loyal service or suffered more. The regimental colors bear the names of many battles, and in sundry engagements having lost many of their original number. Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Weldon Railroad, all come into the list where these brave veterans fought. The regiment paraded in the Grand Review at Washington, May 23, 1865, and was mustered out at Readsville, Massachusetts, July 26.

The 15th Unattached Company was raised in New Bedford and mustered into the hundred day service, July 29, 1864. The captain was Isaac C. Jennings. The company served in the seacoast forts of the State and elsewhere until mustered out, November 15, 1864.

In addition to New Bedford sending more than her quota to the army, she also sent 1,336 men into the navy. Scores of New Bedford men found their way to service

in the Atlantic and Gulf squadrons under Dupont and Farragut. When the "Cumberland" was sunk in Hampton Roads, the last shot fired at her destroyer, the "Merrimack," was fired from her after pivot guns, Lieutenant William R. Randall, of New Bedford, being one of the officers in charge of those guns. A moment after the last shot was fired, the "Cumberland" sank, with her colors flying—a monument to the brave men who fought their guns against an impregnable floating fortress until the waves swept over them. Acting Ensign John P. Zettick, of New Bedford, went down with the monitor "Tecumseh" in Mobile Bay, April 5, 1864, but escaped drowning, he being an expert swimmer.

**The Story of the Stone Fleet.**—Many a New Englander has seen the lithograph entitled "View of the Stone Fleet which sailed from New Bedford Harbor November 16, 1861." These pictures are growing scarce, and before Time obliterates all of them, this record should be made to perpetuate the meaning of the "Stone Fleet."

Late in 1861, the first year of the Civil War, one of the chief annoyances to the Federal cause was the constant blockade running into and out of southern ports. With all the watching on the part of our navy that might be imagined, still the swift running boats of the Southern Confederacy would frequently get through the narrow channels and land war supplies for the Southerners and take out exports for foreign trade. Some genius of the Navy Department finally evolved the plan of sending down a fleet of stone laden vessels and sinking them in the inlets, thus closing the channels. This scheme was adopted by assistant Secretary of the Navy Gustavus V. Fox, who put the plan into speedy operation. Bids were received and contracts made for ships and stone. New Bedford, for obvious reasons, became the rendezvous for the vessels thus purchased. One reason for making New Bedford the headquarters was that within her harbor were many old whaling crafts that had necessarily gone out of business and could be bought by the government cheaply. Richard H. Chappel, of New Haven, was under contract to furnish forty-five vessels. New Bedford furnished him with twenty-four.

The work of assembling this stone fleet occupied two months, and the New Bedford wharves were alive with gangs of men engaged in fitting the vessels for their final voyage. As vessels returned from their last voyage, they were sold to the United States, with all their whaling gear aboard. The Bartletts bought all vessels offered them. The prices paid varied from \$3,670 to \$5,500. James Duddy furnished all the stone needed to load the boats. Every farmer in the nearabout country might have been seen drawing stone for the cargoes soon to be sunk to the bottom of Southern waters. Holes were bored in the sides of the ships just above the waterline, and into these holes were affixed neat fitting plugs so arranged that when they were needed to be pulled to let water in and aid in sinking the boat, it could be quickly accomplished. The entire Stone Fleet was in anchor on the morning of November 15, 1861, and the crews were all aboard. The signal gun was fired, anchors weighed, and the fleet passed out and down the bay. The commanders' "sealed orders" were not opened until the 21st, and then it was found the fleet was ordered to Savannah, there to report to the commodore of the blockade squadron. Captain J. M. Willis, the last surviving captain of the Stone Fleet, over eighty years of age, with a fine memory, kindly narrated the story from which these facts have been gleaned.



The second Stone Fleet was sent from New Bedford on December 9 of the same year. The two united before they went into actual use in stopping the channels and inlets of the southern streams into which the boats were finally sunk. This was indeed a novel war measure.

**Spanish-American War.**—New Bedford's interest in the Spanish-American War was not only that of preparedness and loyalty to service, but even in a more material way, for it had to do with that of coast defence and the part of the fortified coastwise city in the exigencies of the war. E Battery of the Second Battalion was off for service promptly at the call on April 26, 1898, and assembled with the other batteries at Fort Warren, in Boston harbor. Mass meetings, held that very evening both in New Bedford and Portsmouth, protested against the condition of the defences at both points. May 6, Lieut. Lyon with a detachment of thirty men from the batteries of the Second Artillery at Fort Adams, Newport, R. I., was ordered to the fort at Clark's Point, New Bedford, later to be named Fort Rodman. On May 30, G and L Batteries, with Lieut. Paine, range officer, and Lieut. Bryant, assistant surgeon, were ordered to report to Lieut.-Col. Woodman, to take station at New Bedford, and the lieutenant-colonel and his command left for New Bedford on June 1. The post then to be garrisoned was known as Fort at Clark's Point, the ground for its construction having been broken in 1857. Before the War with Spain, a solitary ordnance sergeant formed the garrison at the post, and so continued up to the time of the arrival of Lieut. Lyon on May 6, 1898.

The batteries of 1898 set to work and brought the fortifications up to date in every respect, and when they marched out September 19 that year, they left behind a fort that was a model of neatness and readiness for action. By general order from army headquarters, July 23, 1898, the post officially was named Fort Rodman, in honor of the memory of Lieut.-Col. William Logan Rodman, 38th Massachusetts Infantry, who fell at the head of his regiment in the assault on Port Hudson in 1863. There is little to be recorded either here or at Fort Warren outside of garrison routine. The battery, its officers and men, were ready for duty, and alert for whatever call. They were "at the front," and having received honorable discharge papers November 4, 1898, received also the endorsement of the faithful soldier.

The muster-roll of E Battery, was as follows: Captain, Joseph L. Gibbs; First Lieutenant, Harold C. Wing; Second Lieutenant, Charles H. Fuller. First Sergeant, Charles E. Anthony; Sergeants, Herbert N. Peck, Ernest L. Soule, John C. Spooner, Ambrose F. Merchant; Corporals, John C. De Wolf, Edwin H. Burt, Charles E. Gelette, William G. Wood, John Q. Adams, James Aikin, John Lafferty; Musician, David J. Price; Privates: Alexander A. Aikin, William Almond, Jr., Frank L. Aurelio, Edward A. Baker, Eugene Barneby, James A. Brown, Herbert N. Brownell, Oliver M. Brownell, Charles W. Christopher, Michael Conroy, Bernard Devlin, Harry C. Ellis, Miles H. Fay, Bartholomew P. Furey, Patrick F. Garvin, Walter C. Gelette, Melatiah T. Gibbs, William H. Green, Clinton T. Hersey, Albert R. Hill, Raymond Hunt, Nathan G. Jenney, John P. Kennedy, Arthur J. Lagasse, James L. McCann, Walter H. Merchant, Jr., D. William Murphy, William Nelson, Edward J. Rourke, James J. Shiels, James Smith, William Smith, Jr., Charles E. Soule, John W. Spencer, James H. Sullivan, George

W. Swain, Michael H. Thompson, Norris H. Tripp, Samuel Turner, Jr., Waldo A. Wade, John R. Walsh, Robert R. Welch, John F. Winn, Edward A. Gifford, Jesse F. Crapo.

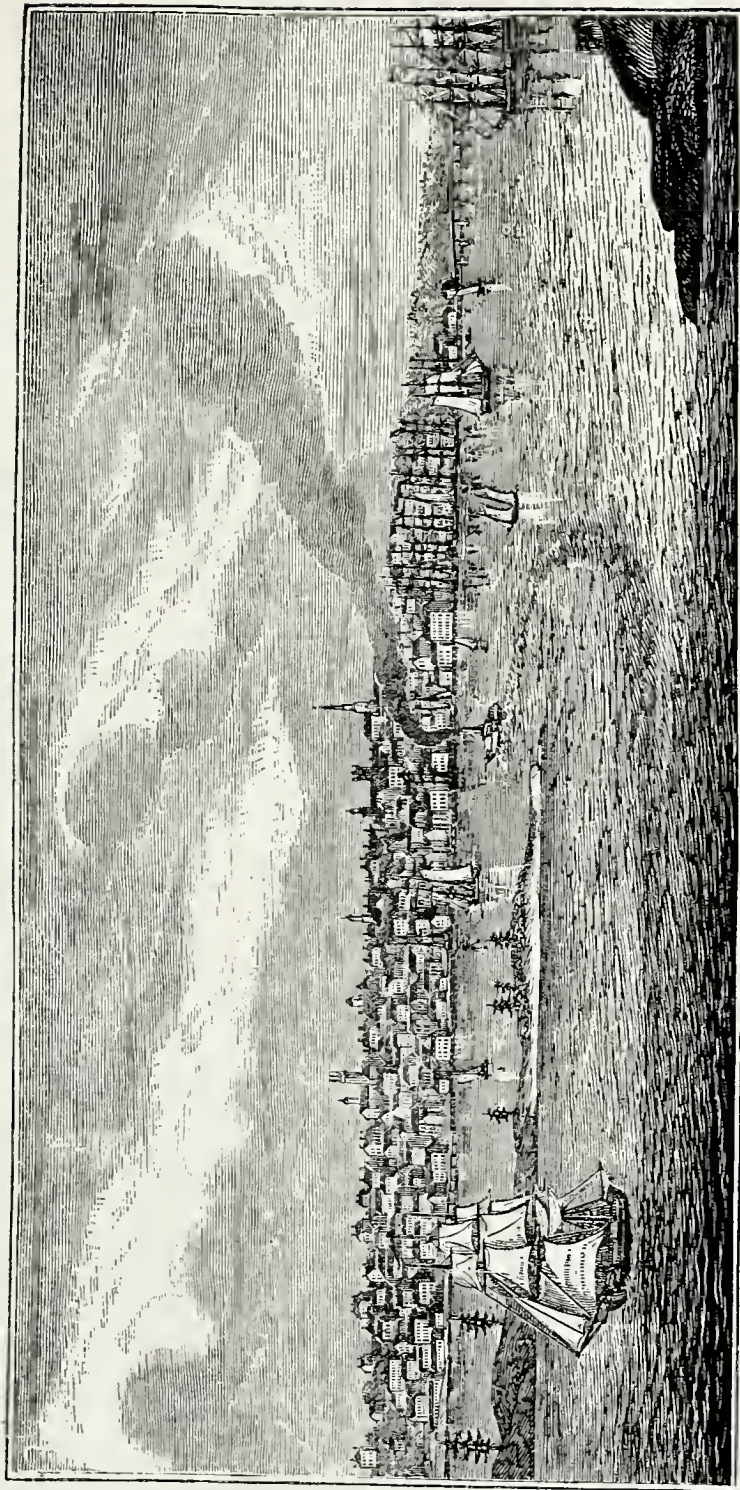
**The World War.**—Let us reiterate, here, as elsewhere, regarding the story of the World War, that it cannot be completely told in a volume devoted entirely thereto, so far as New Bedford is concerned, at least at this hour, when so many are living today who were concerned in so many movements for the success of the war, and with so many committees of service clamoring to be heard and represented in such a book, to say nothing of this single chapter that is devoted to the recounting of the essentials of the united endeavor. The city splendidly, thoroughly, proved its patriotic capabilities and readiness, even before the beginning of the war, and long after the close of hostilities. Approximately 5,600 men went into the service from Greater New Bedford, and today there are 196 names on the Memorial Tablet in the Library.

Men and women gave to the last dollar, or very close to that ultimatum, in order that the Allies might rise superior to the Central Powers, such statistics as the following, that relate to Greater New Bedford, including the towns of Fairhaven, Dartmouth and Acushnet, being recorded as the noblest money pledge and fulfilment that this section had ever been concerned in for any purpose: In the five Liberty Loans, the total amount raised was \$33,960,150, the quota of \$25,908,000 being exceeded by \$8,052,150. The first loan result of April, 1917, amounted to \$5,092,650; the second,—of October, 1917, was \$7,801,700; the third,—of April, 1918, was \$5,829,700; the fourth,—of October, 1918, was \$8,767,000; the fifth,—of May, 1919, was \$6,469,100.

The funds for various war purposes raised in Greater New Bedford were as follows: War Chest, \$1,300,000 collected; \$1,500,000 subscribed, and the number of contributors was 45,000. The Salvation Army raised \$5,000; the Y. M. C. A., \$100,326; Armenian-Syrian Relief committees, \$9,530; Red Cross, \$32,850; Hebrew Relief, \$30,000; Knights of Columbus, \$33,000; War Camp Community committees: \$5,000. Grand total, with War Chest fund, of \$1,518,706.

About 10,870 male citizens of New Bedford were required to register under the conscriptive law, and from that memorable day, April 6, 1917, there was a continuous outpouring of men, by companies and small groups to the various camps to which they were assigned. The eloquence of the four-minute men incited them to relinquish home ties for the new and unknown line of duty; the great patriotic parades, in one of which more than 20,000 people took part, thrilled the city with its spectacle; the planting of gardens and the giving over of eight acres to that purpose by the Morse Twist Drill Company became a widespread movement in patriotism; the announcement of the emergency committee's map for the preparation of a definite scheme of action proved a valuable basic affair for many further plans of action; the work of the food administrators, of the Board of Commerce, of the newspapers, of the churches and fraternal orders, the merchants, and scores of other agencies were at one in the forwarding the great event to success. Three clergymen went from here to the war, notably Rev. John B. Devalles, Rev. Osias Boucher, and William E. Patrick.—Father Devalles paying with his life as a result of his





Drawn by J. W. Burrier—Engraved by S. E. Brown, Boston.  
SOUTHEASTERN VIEW OF NEW BEDFORD IN 1860





devotion. The local doctors and lawyers were second to none in their loyalty, both in the war and during the epidemic, which disaster took nearly 700 by death here.

**Wartime Agencies.**—From the beginning to the close of the war, the Committee of One Hundred was distinctively New Bedford as to its methods and its personnel, for the maintenance of the cause of democracy. Organized February 17, 1917, just before this country started in to aid the Allies, its function from the first proved to be that of a clearing house of ideas and plans for the safety of New Bedford and its vicinity; and an agency for bringing the voluntary efforts of citizens and patriotic organizations into harmony with the more official plans of the authorities. Committees were appointed by four departmental chairmen to investigate what was needed to be done, bring together the people interested in a given problem, formulate plans of action, and get all the coöperation necessary to execute the plan. The personnel at the start consisted of the following—named: Executive Committee: Honorary President, Mayor Charles S. Ashley; president, Thomas S. Hathaway; vice-president, James P. Doran; secretary, Wilfred H. Chapin; treasurer, Harry C. Robinson; Rev. William B. Geoghegan, Charles M. Carroll. Education, Rev. William B. Geoghegan, chairman. Domestic Economy and Food Conservation—Dr. Anna Croacher, Miss Mildred G. Horne, Miss Lillian E. Harris, Mrs. Charles A. Macomber, Miss Helen P. Kempton, Miss Gertrude Wilson; Patriotism—Charles N. Serpa, E. H. Choquette, Rev. Hugo Dylla, Allan P. Keith, Samuel Barnet; sanitation, Dr. Willim A. Neild, Dr. John G. Hathaway, Dr. Edwin P. Seaver, Cooper Gaw, George A. Hough, Dr. G. De N. Hough; Thrift—H. C. Robinson, George M. Kingman, Henry W. Taber, George H. Batchelor; Physical Efficiency, George T. Ferguson, chairman; physical training—Frederick C. Hill, Edward H. Gifford, John C. Gorner, Walter Pollard, Robert Sibor; military drill, William O. Devoll, Thomas Brady; medical examinations, Dr. Arthur V. Pierce, Dr. Edmond F. Cody; walking clubs—Fred W. Greene, Jr., Albert W. Keane, David M. Cheney; dental examinations, Dr. Ned A. Shockley, Dr. A. L. Shockley; recruiting, Major Joseph L. Gibbs. Social service, Wilfred H. Chapin, chairman; first aid—Morris R. Brownell, Mrs. W. A. Robinson, Jr., Mrs. Lawrence Grinnell, Miss Ruth R. Hawkins, Dr. E. D. Gardner, Dr. Charles M. Atchinson, Dr. Edward W. Young, Dr. R. G. Provost, Dr. James M. Bonnar, Dr. L. G. Barron, Charles R. Tasker, Daniel Pearson, James K. Gregory; Y. M. C. A. Camp Work: Charles Mitchell, Rev. Fletcher D. Parker. Relief—Mrs. Elizabeth B. Emery, Frederic H. Taber, W. H. B. Remington, Douglas L. McGee, Edward S. Nicholson, John Hannigan, Charles R. Price, Harold S. Bowie, John Sullivan. Public Safety—Charles M. Carroll, chairman. Food Supplies, Robert C. Sherman, George S. Taber, James L. Humphrey, Jr., Thomas Hersom, Frederick T. Browne, John W. Bannister, William F. Potter, F. J. Wall; Transportation—Chauncey G. Whiton, Henry H. Crapo, Elton S. Wilde, Charles Battie, Arthur W. Forbes, Clarence Obrion, E. S. Judd; Fire protection—E. Francis Dahill, E. Francis Dahill, Jr., William Briggs, Arthur S. Francis, George H. Nye, William R. Chase, R. C. P. Coggeshall, Joseph P. Kennedy; Industries—Otis S. Cook, James Adams, George H. H. Allen, David Beaman, William A. Carroll, Clarence A. Cook, James P. Francis, Thomas Glennon, William H. Snow, William

E. Hatch; Citizens' Guard—Joseph L. Gibbs, Thomas J. Taft, Henry W. Mason, Rufus Soule, Jr., Charles McBay, Captain John McAfee, John I. Bryant, Raymond Hunt; Harbor Protection—William Hand, Jr., Edmond E. Baudoin, Captain John A. Stitt, Homer J. Parent, Charles N. Serpa, Mark T. Vincent, Henry N. West, F. H. Stone, Clarence H. James. Others who aided the cause by their activities in this committee: Walter Arendt, John W. Bannister, Alcide A. Berube, John S. Coy, William S. Davenport, H. H. Drews, H. P. Dion, John Duff, F. E. Earle, E. D. Gardiner, Lawrence Grinnell, John Halliwell, John Hannigan, Arthur N. Harriman, Franklin W. Hatch, William E. Hatch, P. C. Hoadley, Jr., James I. Humphrey, Jr., Edwin B. Jourdain, Allen F. Keith, Charles S. Kelley, Jr., Joseph T. Kenney, William J. Kerwin, Richard Knowles, Michael J. Leahy, John E. McBride, Frank A. Milliken, Henry J. Musselly, Henry J. Noonan, Louis Z. Normandin, George H. Nye, George L. Oliver, Zephaniah W. Pease, Isaiah P. Pratt, Andrew A. Raeburn, Frank E. Ramsdell, W. W. Rose, James Schuler, S. P. Silva, William H. Snow, Dr. Ned A. Stanley, James E. Stanton, Jr., George S. Taber, Frank Vancinni, Frank Vera, Jr., Chauncy C. Whiton.

**Local Military in World War.**—There were two Batteries D from this city that performed service at the front in the World War, the earlier designated of the two being Fourth Company, Battery D, 55th Regiment, Massachusetts Heavy Artillery. This organization had its beginnings long before the middle of the last century. It was on July 9, 1840, that James D. Thompson and others brought about the formation of the New Bedford City Guards, which kept up that designation for a period of nine years, and then lapsed from 1849 to 1852. Reorganization was then again effected under Captain George A. Bourne. Its members took part both in the Civil and the Spanish-American wars. As the Fourth Company, it left New Bedford July 28, 1917, for Fort Banks, under command of Captain John A. Stitt, and there its destination was changed to Nineteenth Company, of Boston, Captain Stitt having been in command since February 2, 1914. It continued to be known as the Nineteenth until the formation of the 55th Regiment, when the Nineteenth became the nucleus of Battery D in December, 1917. First Lieutenant William E. James and Second Lieutenant Clifford B. Kilburn of the old Fourth were then assigned to the new regiment, the 55th, Battery C, Captain Stitt after being detached from the old Fourth, was attached for a short time to a National army company at Fort Banks, and from there he went to Fort Monroe. He returned to Fort Banks, January 18, 1918, and joined Battery D again.

Fourth Company (55th Artillery, Coast Artillery Corps), left Fort Banks, March 16, 1918, for Camp Merritt, and sailed on the "Mauretania," March 25th. At Clermont-Ferrand, in France, the regiment was divided into battalions, the First going to Cebazet, the Second, with Battery D, to Aubiere, the Third to Beaumont. From Aubiere the battery proceeded to the front. While at Aubiere, Captain Stitt was detached from Battery D and made regimental supply officer of the 55th Regiment, filling that office up to Armistice Day, and November 10 he received orders to return to the States. First Lieutenant James was made personnel officer and regimental exchange officer, and on November 11 was transferred to the 51st as cap-



tain. Lieutenant Kilburn was transferred to the 53d Ammunition Train as second lieutenant. When Captain Stitt was transferred, Captain George W. Hirsch took command, and remained throughout. The battery went through Chateau-Thierry; and the first gun position was at Arcis le Pont; later at Dravegny and Sergy on the Vesle front. About September 15, the long hike was taken to Argonne Forest. The outfit was then constantly in action at Recicourt, Avocourt, Very, Malancourt, Montfauçon, Epinonville, Gesnes, Romagne and Beaufort; and it is stated that no artillery regiment had so long and continuous a record at the front as the 55th, which included Battery D. The regiment had its share in three big fights—the Aisne-Marne offensive, the Oise-Aisne offensive, and the great Meuse-Argonne offensive. It was accoutred with twenty-four 155mm, high-powered motorized Filloux rifles, and altogether the men fired 32,678 rounds. After the Armistice, the battery started for home, arriving at Brest, December 17, 1918, sailing on the "Cretic" January 10. Arriving in New York, January 22, it proceeded to Camp Mills, and there met by Mayor Ashley and Captain Stitt. Leaving Camp Mills, January 26, they proceeded to Fort Ferry, near New London, and thence started for home, February 7. In New Bedford, Captain Stitt again took charge of the old company, and at the armory a wonderful supper was provided for the men.

The battery left New Bedford with 119 men. Of these, thirty men were transferred to the Twenty-Sixth Yankee Division on August 17, the vacant places being filled by men who enlisted from New Bedford. When the battery left Fort Banks it consisted of five officers and 225 men, these being made up from New Bedford, Taunton, Providence and National Army men. Of this number, 219 returned to the States. The following is the roster of officers of the organization from the beginning:

Independent Co., E, October 11, 1852.—Capt. George A. Bourne; 1st Lt. Barnabas Ewer Jr.; 2nd Lt. Henry F. Thomas; 3rd Lt. Francis W. Hatch; 4th Lt. Albert G. Corey.

Independent Co., E, June 30, 1854.—Capt. George A. Bourne; 1st Lt. Barnabas Ewer Jr.; 2nd Lt. Henry F. Thomas; 3rd Lt. Albert G. Corey; 4th Lt. Henry K. W. Lucas.

Independent Co., E, November 27, 1854.—Capt. Timothy Ingraham; 1st Lt. B. Ewers Jr.; 2nd Lt. H. F. Thomas; 3rd Lt. A. G. Corey; 4th Lt. John B. Baylies.

Company E, August 18, 1857.—Capt. T. Ingraham; 1st Lt. B. Ewers Jr.; 2nd Lt. A. G. Corey; 3rd Lt. James Barton; 4th Lt. John B. Baylies.

Company E, January 4, 1858.—Capt. Ingraham; 1st Lt. Barton; 2nd Lt. Israel T. Bryant; 3rd Lt. Austin S. Cushman; 4th Lt. Francis L. Porter. This company at Fortress Monroe, April 16, 1861. Returned July 23, 1861. Capt. Ingraham retired as Lt. Col. of 18th Mass. Inf.

Company E, July 23, 1861—1st Lt. James Barton, comd'g.; 2nd Lt. Bryant; 3rd Lt. Cushman; 4th Lt. Francis L. Porter.

Company E, August 8, 1862. 3rd Regt.—Capt. Richard A. Pierce; 1st Lt. Bryant; 2nd Lt. Elisha Doane.

Company E, 3rd Regt., Sept. 18, 1863.—Capt. John A. Hawes; 1st Lt. Wm. E. Mason; 2nd Lt. James L. Sharp. Company E, 3rd Regt. Dec. 4, 1863.—Capt. James L. Sharp; 1st Lt. Isaac A. Jennings; 2nd Lt. Henry H. Potter. March 24, 1865.—Capt. Potter; 1st Lt. Daniel A. Butler; 2nd Lt. Sylvester C. Spooner.

Company E Unattached, June 6, 1866.—Capt. Potter, deceased; 1st Lt. Butler, comdg.; 2nd Lt. Spooner.

Company E, 3rd Regt., October, 1866.—Capt. Butler; 1st Lt. James E. Childs; 2nd Lt. Spooner. Aug. 31, 1868.—Capt. Wm. E. Mason; 1st Lt. Thomas J. Gifford; 2nd Lt. Spooner. June, 1869.—Capt. Daniel A. Butler; 1st Lt. Gifford; 2nd Lt. Spooner. Oct. 4, 1869.—Capt. Butler; 1st Lt. Gifford; 2nd Lt. Joshua B. Bowman. May 8,



1871.—Capt. Butler; 1st Lt. Gifford; 2nd Lt. Wm. G. Davis. Feb. 5, 1872.—Capt. Butler; 1st Lt. Davis; 2nd Lt. Henry K. Wing. June 3, 1872.—Capt. Butler; 1st Lt. James E. Childs; 2nd Lt. Wm. Sanders. Nov. 16, 1874.—Capt. Daniel A. Butler; 1st Lt. Wm. Sanders; 2nd Lt. Richmond B. Hathway. Aug. 14, 1876.—Capt. Sanders; 1st Lt. John K. McAfee; 2nd Lt. Charles K. Wood. Aug. 20, 1877.—Capt. Sanders; 1st Lt. McAfee; 2nd Lt. John H. Deane. Lt. Deane deceased Nov. 15.

Company E, 1st Regt., Jan. 3, 1881.—Capt. Sanders; 1st Lt. McAfee; 2nd Lt. Zacheus C. Dunham. July 25, 1881.—Capt. McAfee; 1st Lt. Dunham; 2nd Lt. Wm. R. Spooner. Jan. 29, 1883.—Capt. McAfee; 1st Lt. Wm. B. Topham; 2nd Lt. ———. May 7, 1883.—Capt. Topham; 1st Lt. Alfred Ellis; 2nd Lt. Frank C. Barrows. May 3, 1886.—Capt. Wm. Sanders; 1st Lt. Richards H. Morgan; 2nd Lt. Arthur E. Perry. April 8, 1889.—Capt. Morgan; 1st Lt. Perry; 2nd Lt. Wm. N. Church, Jr. March 23, 1891.—Capt. Perry; 1st Lt. Church; 2nd Lt. Abner P. Pope. Dec. 14, 1891.—Capt. Perry; 1st Lt. Pope; 2nd Lt. Austin T. Howland.

Company E, 1st Regt. Inf., M. V. M., Mar. 14, 1892.—Capt. Perry; 1st Lt. Pope; 2nd Lt. Thos. S. Hathaway. Dec. 23, 1895.—Capt. Perry; 1st Lt. Hathaway; 2nd Lt. Joseph L. Gibbs. Jan. 11, 1897.—Captain Hathaway; 1st Lt. Gibbs; 2nd Lt. Horatio Hathaway, Jr.

Battery E, 1st H. A. M. V. M., Jan. 24, 1898.—Capt. Gibbs; 1st Lt. Harold C. Wing; 2nd Lt. H. Hathaway. May 9, 1898.—Capt. Gibbs; 1st Lt. Wing; 2nd Lt. Charles H. Fuller. Feb. 18, 1901.—Capt. Gibbs; 1st Lt. John C. DeWolf; 2nd Lt. Charles H. Fuller. Mar. 3, 1902.—Capt. Gibbs; 1st Lt. DeWolf; 2nd Lt. Ernest L. Snell.

4th Co. CAC. MVM. Aug. 6, 1906.—Capt. DeWolf; 1st Lt. Snell; 2nd Lt. Wm. Nelson, failed to pass and was not assigned. Oct. 8, 1906.—Capt. DeWolf; 1st Lt. Snell; 2nd Lt. William Stitt. Jan. 6, 1908.—Capt. Snell; 1st Lt. Wm. Stitt; 2nd Lt. Gilbert G. Southworth. Dec. 28, 1908.—Capt. Wm. Stitt; 1st Lt. Southworth; 2nd Lt. John A. Stitt. Dec. 18, 1911.—Capt. Southworth; 1st Lt. John A. Stitt; 2nd Lt. Charles R. Swift qualified May 20, 1912. Feb. 2, 1914.—Capt. John A. Stitt; 1st Lt. Wm. E. James; 2nd Lt. E. Burton Kilburn. Aug. 5, 1917, mustered into Federal Service and changed to 19th Co. Coast defenses of Boston. Dec. 15, 1917, changed to Batt. D, 55th Art., sailed Mar. 25, 1918, on Mauretania.

Reorganization Federal recognition Sept. 7, 1920, as 4th Co. 1st CDC. CAC. Mass. N. G.—Capt. John A. Stitt; 1st Lt. Leo A. Bessete; 2nd Lt. Clarence H. Butler. Dec. 8, 1920.—Capt. Stitt; 1st Lt. George O. Gardner; 2nd Lt. Clarence H. Butler. Oct. 25, 1921.—Capt. Gardner; 1st Lt. vacant; 2nd Lt. Harold B. Guthrie. Dec. 5, 1921.—Capt. Gardner; 1st Lt. Richard Hoyle; 2nd Lt. Guthrie.

Oct. 1, 1923, changed to Battery E, 241st Art. CAC. Mass. N. G.

New Bedford boasts the only Bristol county unit of the famous 26th, or better known Yankee Division, which was composed exclusively of National Guardsmen of New England and carved for itself a splendid record in the World's War, where the division, the first division of National Guardsmen to arrive in France and the first to take its place at the front, served nineteen months in France, including ten consecutive months on the Western Front.

This Bristol county unit of the Y. D. was Battery D, 102nd Field Artillery, 51st F. A. Brigade, 26th Division. It was organized in New Bedford in the spring of 1917 as Battery D, 1st F. A., Mass. National Guard. Under command of Capt. Roger D. Swaim and Lieuts. Henderson I. Inches, Roger W. Eckfeldt, Harold Winslow and Lester T. Lewis, and with an enlisted strength in excess of one hundred men, the unit left New Bedford armory late in July, 1917, and mobilized with all other units of the field artillery of New England at Boxford, Mass., where on August 8, 1917, it was federalized as Battery D, 102nd F. A., 26th Division, and with the other units of the Y. D. left the United States for overseas duty, September 21, 1917. After four months of intensive training at Coetquidan, France, Battery D,

with the remainder of the Y. D., was sent to the front, February 8, 1918. Its first sector was on the famous Chemin-des-Dames at Soissons, where the division received its baptism of fire and gas, and where it remained during the months of February and March, 1918. Early in April, 1918, Battery D saw continued service in the Toul sector, in front of Mount Sec, where it participated in the first two battles fought by American troops in France, at Seicheprey in April and Xivray-Marvosin in May. While on this sector, early in April, Battery D had its first loss, Pvt. Robert Andrews, of New Bedford, being killed in hostile shell fire at the battery's firing position. Andrews was the first soldier of the 102nd Field Artillery regiment to be killed.

In July, after a short service in Picardy, when it was thought that the German army would make its attack upon Paris through Picardy, the Y. D. was sent to Chateau-Thierry to relieve the 2nd Division, which had as its infantry the 5th and 6th regiments of Marines which held the German advance at Chateau-Thierry. This sector was taken over July 4th, 1918, and on July 18th Battery D had its first experience in open warfare, as the Y. D. advanced against the enemy on that day. Until August 8th, Battery D remained in this great offensive, said by many to have been the turning point in the World's War. During this offensive the New Bedford battery lost a score of its soldiers by hostile shell fire. It served artillery fire for the infantry of four different divisions before it was relieved and sent to a rest camp for its first rest since February, and to get replacements. The battery remained out of the firing zone a scant three weeks, and then was sent with the division to be a part of the First American Army, composed of the five veteran American divisions, into the St. Mihiel offensive, which took place in September, 1918. In October, Battery D was continuously firing its 75 m. m. French guns in the Argonne Forest offensive, and the Armistice found the battery in Death Valley, just north of Verdun. The winter of 1918-1919 was spent by the battery in winter quarters at Mayette, in the LeMans area. With the other units of the division, it sailed for home early in April, 1919. Again in the United States, Battery D took part in the mammoth parade and review of the Yankee Division at Boston on April 24, 1919, and was discharged from the service of the United States at Camp Devens, April 29th, 1919. During its war service Battery D lost 21 men and one officer, while at least fifty percent. of its personnel were afflicted with wounds or the effects of poison gas.

Upon its arrival at the battery's home city, in excess of 100,000 New Bedford people were at the railroad station to meet it, or stood in dense formation along the route of the triumphant parade of the battery from the railroad station through the business section of the city and to the armory. The battery was accompanied to its home city by the 102nd F. A. regimental band, which had played for the battery in France, but its music was nearly drowned out by the music of the New Bedford band along the route of the parade. For an entire week the returned field artillerymen were the honored and petted guests of the people of the city of New Bedford, being banquetted and entertained at theatres and with dances in the state armory.

Soon after the discharge of the Division, the former members of Battery D formed an association which has been in existence ever since and is known as Battery D Veterans' Association. This association maintains a



fund which is used exclusively for the assistance of the men who soldiered with the unit, when they are ill or in poor financial condition, and their dependents. The Association has been given a triangular plot of land by the estate of F. William Oesting, which is located on the main thoroughfare between New Bedford and Fall River, and a movement is underway for the erection of a fine bronze memorial representing an artilleryman in the act of placing a shell in the breach of a 75mm. gun, to be placed on this site, in memory of the twenty-one men of the battery who were killed or died in France during the World's War. It is planned to have this statue complete and dedicated on Memorial Day, 1924.

As the successor to Battery D, 102nd Field Artillery, the Massachusetts National Guard in 1920 established Battery D, 101st Field Artillery, Mass. N. G., in New Bedford. This national guard battery was organized with Harold Winslow, a first lieutenant in the old battery, as captain, and with Sgts. Perry, Stanley and Lucas of the old battery as lieutenants. Many of the members of the old battery are non-commissioned officers in the new national guard battery. The new battery has its main quarters at the State Armory in New Bedford, but its stables, where 32 horses are kept, are in Fairhaven, as is the ten acre drill-grounds, horse corral and riding ring. The city of New Bedford is very proud of its new national guard battery of field artillery, and has already spent several thousands of dollars in making the quarters at Fairhaven comfortable for its members.

Other Companies.—On April 6, 1917, the Sixth Deck Division, Naval Militia, were given a rousing good-bye as they left under the command of Lieutenant Homer J. Parent, to report at the Boston Navy Yard. More than 300 men were then enlisted from here in the Naval Coast Defense Patrol.

The Fifth Company of New Bedford, a full unit of the State Guard, was fully organized in May, 1917. Stephen C. Lowe was captain; Charles L. McBay, first lieutenant; J. L. Fairclough, second lieutenant. Major Joseph L. Gibbs was commander of the First Battalion of the 17th Regiment Massachusetts State Guard. Machine Gun Company of the 17th Regiment Massachusetts State Guard, a New Bedford organization that won praise for its work, was the first company from this city to report for strike duty at Boston in September, 1919.

Company A, New Bedford Home Guard, with Stephen C. Lowe as its organizer, started in 1917, and performed faithfully its part, many of its members later going out into the larger service of the war.

In chief, then, out of a great volunteer army of workers, the organizations in which the city was largely represented in the World War have been indicated. This marching host stirred the city to its depths, and its great gift of patriotic unity undoubtedly shared in the national success.

The Red Cross started in for active work in New Bedford, with a public meeting held in the Union for Good Works building, Thursday, October 6, 1914, then the following-named committees were elected to do relief work under the direction of the National American Red Cross: President, Charles W. Clifford; vice-president, James P. Francis; treasurer, Miss Rachel Howland; assistant treasurer, Miss Isabel L. Chalfin; secretary, Miss Emma R. Hall; assistant secretary, Mrs. George M. Kingman; ways and means committee: chairman, Miss Mary R. Prescott; emer-



gency, chairman, Mrs. Katherine G. Merrill; clothing for men, Miss Isabelle Chalfin; bedding, Mrs. Maria T. Upjohn; hospital supplies, Miss Julia W. Rodman; publicity, Mrs. William B. Geoghegan; knitting, Mrs. Francis B. Boyer; new clothing for Belgian women and children, Miss Caroline Stone. The Bristol County Chapter was formed July 27, 1916, at the Union for Good Works building, with the following-named officers: Chairman, Gerge H. Tripp; vice-chairman, James P. Francis; secretary, Mrs. Andrew Raeburn; assistant secretary, Mrs. George M. Kingman; treasurer, William F. Caswell; executive committee: Misses Mary R. Prescott, Julia W. Rodman, Isabelle Chalfin, and Thomas S. Hathaway and Jacques Schouler. At the first annual meeting, October 19, 1916, these officers were reelected. April 26, war having been declared, the name of Bristol County Chapter was changed to that of New Bedford Chapter, with jurisdiction over New Bedford, Acushnet, Fairhaven and Dartmouth. On June 3, 1917, Mrs. Lawrence Grinnell offered the use of the Grinnell mansion on County street as headquarters of New Bedford Chapter during the war. In August, 1917, the chapter had nearly 20,000 members, and forwarded to headquarters at Washington the sum of \$12,931.50. George T. Schouler was elected treasurer in October, 1917. In January, 1918, the membership was over 32,000, President Tripp being called to service at Camp Dix library for three months, Mr. Francis assumed the duties of chairman, and James W. Allen was elected treasurer in place of Mr. Schouler. The officers were reelected at the annual meeting in 1918. The total number of garments distributed in 1915 and 1916 was 102,875. Thomas S. Hathaway was elected chairman of the chapter, in December, 1919.

The Mary Russell Rotch Auxiliary was formed in 1916 by young women connected with the Unity House, and fifty-two other branches and auxiliaries were started. There were four classes in home nursing; twenty-five nurses joined the Red Cross directly from New Bedford, and twenty-two were in active service. Of nursing resources, there were 409 women in the personnel. Red Cross membership to May, 1919, was 49,336. The Junior Red Cross was formed January 7, 1918, with 15,485 members. Mrs. A. L. Shockley was chairman. The Home Service Section of the Central Relief Committee performed a splendid work. Mrs. Manning Emery, Jr., was chairman.

The most notable effort and the all-engrossing one for the raising of money for all war purposes in this city was that of the War Chest plan and purpose, whose intensive campaign ran from June 17 to 24, 1918, with about 2,500 people actually engaged in the enterprise. They are said to have given up everything else in order to raise the sum of \$1,000,000; this they did, and also exceeded it by \$50,000. The idea was first discussed at a meeting of the campaign committee for the War Camp Community Fund, held at the Board of Commerce rooms in December, 1917. May 10, 1918, the New Bedford War Fund Association was actually organized, "to enlist and organize for war needs every man, woman and youth in the community," the permanent officers and directors being the following-named: President, Oliver Prescott; vice-president, John Duff; treasurer, Edmund Wood; clerk, Samuel Barnet; auditor, Merton W. Swift; secretary, A. H. Andrews; Hon. Charles S. Ashley, mayor; James A. Adams, A. H. Andrews, Benjamin H. Anthony, Mrs. William S. Anthony, Samuel

Barnet, Henry Bartkiewicz, Walter H. Bassett, Julius Berkowitz, Abraham Binns, John L. Burton, E. H. Choquette, Clarence A. Cook, Henry H. Crapo, Herbert E. Cushman, Charles O. Dexter, William F. Donovan, James P. Doran, John Duff, Arthur J. Durfee, Dr. John N. Finni, William H. Fox, J. E. Gendron, Thomas F. Glennon, William R. Grindrod, Arthur N. Harriman, Thomas S. Hathaway, Mrs. William C. Hawes, P. C. Headley, Jr., Thomas Hersom, Jr., Clark W. Holcomb, Mrs. A. C. Howland, Elizabeth K. Howland, Joseph P. Kennedy, Joseph T. Kenney, Walter H. Langshaw, Earle F. Lovejoy, Clarence R. Obrion, Mrs. J. Ubalde Paquin, Thomas P. Payne, Mrs. A. G. Pierce, Jr., Joseph H. Pinnington, Dr. J. C. daS. Pitta, Elmer M. Poole, Dr. Charles A. Pratt, Oliver Prescott, George Richards, William Ritchie, Samuel Ross, Odillon Tousseau, James E. Stanton, Jr., Charles N. Serpa, Abbott P. Smith, Eliot D. Stetson, Mrs. Jireh Swift, Jr., Frederic H. Taber, James Thomson, Mrs. Walter A. White, Elton S. Wilde, Edmund Wood, John D. Zygiel. Of the various committees for aggressive work, the following-named were the chairmen: General campaign committee, chairman, Elton S. Wilde; census, director general, Bert Swift; classification and tabular, M. M. Lindsay; rating, John Sullivan; general publicity, William Ritchie; news, Rev. Fletcher D. Parker; billboards, John Lancaster; buttons, banners, posters, etc., Henry S. Hutchinson; mass meetings, William J. Springborn; newspaper advertising, Bert Swift; four-minute-men, Asa Auger; publicity, churches and schools, Allen P. Keith; parade, Charles Serpa; war cabinet, A. P. Smith; navy, E. H. Cook; infantry, John Halliwell; artillery, C. A. W. Best; home guards, Rossa Moriarty; aviators, Thomas Hersom, Jr.

A committee of the War Chest still functions, caring for needy veterans with claims against the government due to war service during the period prior to the announcement of decision on cases. Immediately after the war, the sum of \$160,000 was expended for shoes and clothing for returned soldiers and sailors.

---

## CHAPTER VIII.

### FROM 1840 TO 1885.

Seven years previous to the incorporation of New Bedford as a city, business was very prosperous and civic improvements went forward immensely. In 1840 the New Bedford and Taunton railroad was completed, and opened on July 1. The Whaling Insurance Company of New Bedford was organized, George Howland, Jr., president; and the market and town-hall building finished and occupied. On April 27, 1841, a memorial service was held in memory of President William Henry Harrison, who died one month after his inauguration. A procession of military, revenue officers, Congressmen, civic officers, and citizens one thousand strong, led by General James D. Thompson, marched to solemn music to the North Baptist Church, where impressive services were held.

In 1841 the agitation for making New Bedford a city commenced. A vote was taken in February, 1842, at which the vote stood, 373 for and



320 against the measure. In 1841 the town house on South Second street was fitted up as an armory for the newly organized New Bedford Guards. The Parker House was opened February 10, 1842, with a banquet given by the proprietors, Horton & Son, to about two hundred invited guests. Many brilliant speeches were made, among them one by John Avery Parker, who responded to the toast "The Parker House." The hotel was built by Mr. Parker and occupied by him as a private residence, and when converted into a public house of entertainment was named in his honor.

Fall River having been the victim of a disastrous fire on July 2, 1843, a public meeting was held in the town hall July 3rd, to raise funds for the sufferers. The result was \$1,581 in cash, and six wagonloads of furniture, clothing and provisions. On the evening of September 27, 1843, John Quincy Adams, a former President, visited New Bedford as the guest of Joseph Grinnell, and was escorted from the depot by forty young men with torches. The next day a public reception was tendered the distinguished guest in the town hall, Chairman of the Board of Selection James B. Congdon making the address of welcome. After a twenty minute responsive speech by ex-President Adams, hundreds of citizens availed themselves of the privilege of shaking hands with their honored guest. President Adams had previously visited New Bedford, arriving from Nantucket with his son and others on September 19, 1835, in the steamer "Telegraph" and spent the Sunday at the Mansion House. In 1843 Daniel Webster argued a will case in New Bedford, the court-room being packed with eager listeners to his eloquent plea.

In 1846 the committee appointed by the annual town meeting to suppress the liquor traffic was instructed to call upon every family in town and ascertain its position on the temperance question, and whether they would sign a total abstinence pledge. In 1847, at a special town meeting held January 23, the question of a city charter was referred to a committee of twenty citizens. The committee reported a form of charter to a meeting held February 6, several amendments being made by the meeting. A warm discussion followed, but finally the committee was instructed to petition the General Court for an act granting New Bedford a city charter. Another town meeting was held March 8 to further consider the subject, but adjourned without action. On March 18, 1847, an election was held upon the acceptance of an "Act to establish the City of New Bedford." The vote resulted as follows: For, 1,150; against, 814.

**First Years as a City—1847-1860.**—The City charter, adopted March 18, 1847, divided the city into six wards, and on April 28 the city government organized and elected its first officers. The city at this time was enjoying a condition of great prosperity due to a large extent to the whaling industry, and the new city entered upon its municipal career under most favorable circumstances. The establishment of the city charter seemingly gave great satisfaction to a majority of the people, the prevailing sentiment being voiced in a strong editorial in the "Mercury," which closed in the following: "Success to the City of New Bedford. May she ever be foremost in good works, ever be eminent as a friend of freedom, liberality, good will, education and Christianity. To the latest generation may she be a burning and shining light. May she be illuminated with the oil of gladness and blessed with plenty and prosperity."



The first Independence Day celebration was one of special interest. Excursion boats brought 1,700 visitors from Edgarton and Nantucket and many hundreds came from surrounding towns. The day was given over to patriotic rejoicing. The parade headed by Gen. James D. Thompson, marshal of the day, was enlivened by the New Bedford Guards under Captain Seth Russell and the Citizens' Band, while in line were the entire city government, civil officers, lodges of Free Masons, Odd Fellows, Sons of Temperance, many citizens, and the Fire Departments of New Bedford, Fairhaven and Nantucket. An oration was delivered by J. A. Kasson, and a grand display of fireworks in the evening closed the celebration.

On January 10, 1847, the new Alms House on Clark's Point was opened with public services.

The making of daguerreotypes was begun in 1847 in New Bedford by C. E. Hawes & Brothers, in their rooms in Liberty Hall. The "Mercury" in large flashy head-lines announced the fact that they had received news from Europe in twenty-eight days! They thought that very rapid transit at that time. In 1848 there were thirty miles of graded streets, all curbed and flagged. New Bedford has made fine street improvements through the years since it was incorporated. Public sewers were constructed through portions of Union and Middle streets in 1852. By 1857 very many streets had their sewer system. Father Matthew, the famous temperance apostle, came to the city in September, 1849, and several hundred signed the total abstinence pledge as a result of his labors. In 1849 Asiatic cholera claimed a number of New Bedford citizens as its prey. Solemn services in memory of President Zachary Taylor were held August 6, 1850, in the North Christian Church. The Free Public Library, at 139 Union street, was opened to the public March 3, 1853. In 1854 the Point road was laid out and graded to a width of eighty feet; later the name French avenue was bestowed in honor of Rodney French. In a great fire on the night of October 18, 1854, many buildings were destroyed, including the celebrated Liberty Hall. It was one of the most historic buildings in the place, and stood at the corner of Purchase and William streets, given in 1795, to the First Congregational Church by William Rotch, it was first used for church purposes and later converted into a public hall. It was from the stage in this hall that those great men, apostles of freedom and temperance such as William Lloyd Garrison, Wendell Phillips, Frederick Douglass, Stephen Foster, Theodore Parker, Parker Pillsbury and Henry Ward Beecher thundered forth their anathemas against the slave trade, and in eloquent periods pleaded the cause of the lowly and oppressed. The bell known as "New Bedford's Liberty Bell" often rang out its warning to the fugitive slaves that danger was nigh. This bell was bought February 18, 1796, of Captain Silas Jones of Nantucket, the purchase price of \$255 being raised by subscription; the second largest subscription, six dollars, was made by a colored man, Aaron Childs; the largest, ten dollars, by Thomas Hope. In the fire which ended the career of the old hall, the bell was melted, but the metal was rescued when the ruins cooled, tea bells and other articles were made from it, and in many homes are yet preserved as souvenirs of the past.

The greatest fire in the history of this city began at noon August 24, 1859, in the engine room of William Cox's planing mills on the east side of Water street, now the site of the Tillinghast mill. A strong southeast

wind was blowing at the time and the fire spread rapidly, leaping across the street along the wharves, and soon shops, factories, stores, buildings and ships were a mass of flames. Cargoes of oil stored along the wharf caught fire, and the ship "John and Edward," lying at the Richmond wharf, was a mass of flames from deck to mast-head. The oil at this point ran from the wharf to the water and at one time a considerable area of the river was literally a sea of fire. By nightfall the fire had spent its fury and the danger was over. Several buildings had been blown up by the engineers in order to stop the spread of the flames. The total destruction of property according to the record was \$254,579, with less than \$7,000 insurance. The sad feature of this fire was that the loss fell principally upon a class of industrious, worthy men, many of whom saw the hard earnings of years swept away in the angry flames. Some lost not only their business, but their homes; yet out of it all came the new era of "better fire protection;" the old "tubs" were relegated to the rear, the steam fire-engine came to the front, and a final result was the present efficient fire department. During the five years, 1847-1852, some of the prominent streets of the city were opened.

**Following the Civil War.**—September 14, 1864, New Bedford celebrated the two hundredth anniversary of her incorporation as the town of Dartmouth, although set off from that town in 1787. Broadcast invitations had been sent out to the honored sons and daughters of Dartmouth who had left her borders, and the response was very gratifying. Services of an appropriate nature were held at the North Christian Church. The orator of that occasion was William Wallace Crapo. A banquet was served at two o'clock, after which came many brilliant toasts by men of State and local prominence. An address had been carefully prepared by James B. Congdon, addressed to the mayor and aldermen of the city of Dartmouth, Devonshire, England. After being beautifully engrossed by George B. Hathaway and signed by the mayor, aldermen and town clerks of the towns joining in the celebration, the address was mailed to its English destination.

The first real improvement in New Bedford during the Civil War period was trying to supply the place with a suitable supply of pure water, \$300 having been set aside in 1860 to investigate the best means of securing the city's water supply. Captain Charles H. Bigelow, United States Army engineer, was secured to be in charge of the construction of the water works. Public sentiment approved the plan of bringing water from the Acushnet river, and the General Court on April 18, 1863, passed an act providing for the issue of water bonds to the amount of \$500,000. This act was accepted by the city at an election April 14, 1864, 784 votes being cast for and 594 votes against the proposition. The first board of water commissioners organized December 13, 1865, with William W. Crapo, chairman; Warren Ladd, David Kempton, and James B. Congdon, clerk. A dam was built across the valley of the Acushnet river, seven miles north of the city; miles of pipes were laid; and during the closing weeks of 1869 the great undertaking was completed. The first superintendent of the water-works was George A. Briggs, who served until 1871.

The decline of the whaling industry begun as a result of the discovery of petroleum, belongs in part to this period, as does the quick recovery from the stunning blow and the fight for life and prosperity as a manu-



facturing city. New Bedford in this transition from an industry which was her very life and upon which her wealth was founded, gave evidence of the greatness of her merchants, her business men and her manufacturers. First in the whaling industry, which betrayed her, a substitute was found in cotton manufacturing, and the city grew to as proud a position among manufacturing cities. Mills commenced operation in various parts of the city, and each year saw an increase in their number. In 1870 the Wamsutta Corporation installed in a newly finished mill a Corliss engine, which was then the largest stationary engine in the world.

In March, 1868, Charles Dickens visited the city and gave a public reading from "Pickwick Papers." The New Bedford Choral Association was organized in April, 1869, and began rehearsals for its part in the great Peace Jubilee held in Boston the following June. September 8, 1869, a destructive southeast gale swept over the city, which did much damage on the river and again destroyed the New Bedford & Fairhaven bridge, yet there was some compensation in the acquisition by the city of the franchise of the bridge corporation, at a cost of \$20,970. A new bridge was erected, the cost being about \$45,000, which in June, 1870, was completed and first used, free of any toll charges. In 1872 a public meeting was held to aid the Chicago fire sufferers, and within two weeks \$20,000 in cash and clothing had been sent to the stricken city. Street railways operated by horse-power were inaugurated in 1872, and in 1873 the New Bedford & Taunton railroad passed under the control of the Boston, Clinton & Fitchburg Railroad Company.

August 31, 1874, President Grant visited New Bedford, coming up the bay from Nantucket on the steamer "Monohansett." He was given a most hearty welcome, immense crowds thronging the streets through which the presidential party passed, escorted by the New Bedford City Guards and the Schouler Guards. At the City Hall, after an address of welcome by Mayor George B. Richmond, briefly responded to by General Grant, a reception was held, hundreds of citizens were introduced, and the greatest good feeling and enthusiasm were displayed. A dinner was served to distinguished guests at the Parker House. December 31, 1874, King Kalakua of the Hawaiian Islands visited New Bedford. His welcome by the city authorities and citizens was most cordial, and the greatest courtesy was shown him.

Several changes in the city charter were made in 1875, changes made necessary by the constantly increasing importance of New Bedford as a manufacturing city. The Citizens' National Bank was incorporated in 1875; the Fall River railway was opened to travel on December 15, the same year; and in the spring of 1876 the New Bedford railroad extended its tracks to the steamboat wharf to connect with the steamship line to New York, which had been established in June, 1874, with the new steamers "City of New Bedford" and "City of Fitchburg."

The Fourth of July, 1876, Centennial year of American Independence, was observed with unusual ceremonies. On March 13th Congress passed a resolution recommending "the people of the several States to assemble in their counties and towns on the approaching centennial anniversary of our National Independence, and that they cause to have delivered on that day an historic sketch of said county or town from the date of formation, and



that copies of said sketch be filed in the clerk's office of said county, and in the office of the Librarian of Congress." In accordance with this resolution, the city council appointed a committee of arrangements and made an appropriation of \$4,000. The main feature of the day was a procession including the military and firemen of the city, Grand Army Posts, disabled veterans in carriages, city officials, United States officers, and invited guests. At Liberty Hall an historical address was delivered by William W. Crapo, and which covered the entire period from the first settlement of the town of Dartmouth in 1664. The climax of this noble address read as follows:

The memory of the heroism and the patriotic devotion of those who struggled for our independence, and those who gallantly contended for the preservation of the National Union stirs our blood and arouses our emulation. We remember the brave men who suffered to perpetuate free institutions. We cannot forget the record, and we ought not to forget it. It inspires us with faithfulness and determination to meet the needs and requirements of the coming age; it stimulates us to labor strenuously for the highest welfare of our country, believing that America holds in trust the destinies of the world. We are descended from a noble ancestry. We are proud of their noble achievements, and their history incites us to effort. Our birthright, this inheritance of the principles and sentiments which have made the Republic great imposes upon us grave responsibilities.

In October, 1876, the whaling industry again received a crushing blow in the loss of twelve ships in the Arctic ocean. The gale of October 12, 1878, was the severest since 1869 and caused much damage. The bark "Sarah" sailed that morning on a whaling voyage, and when about forty miles off Block Island foundered and was lost.

In January, 1879, the railroad passed under the control of the Old Colony Corporation, and in 1880 the Pairpoint Manufacturing Company joined the Morse Twist Drill and Machine Company, the Wamsutta Mills, Potomska Mills, New Bedford Copper Company, and other manufacturing plants, in creating a newer and greater New Bedford than had existed under its one industry of whaling and its allied branches. In 1881 came the telephone, introduced by the Southern Massachusetts Telephone Company; and in July of the same year the New Bedford Coöperative Bank was added to the city's financial institutions. In 1882 the Acushnet Mills Corporation, the Grinnell Manufacturing Company and the Oneko Woolen Corporation and many other industries were added. In 1884 the New Bedford Manufacturing Company was incorporated and the New Bedford Board of Trade was organized. The year 1885 saw many extensions of the sewer system. In July, 1886, the Edison Illuminating Company located an electric plant in the city. In 1887 the New Bedford Safe Deposit and Trust Company was incorporated. In December, 1888, the Hathaway Manufacturing Company was organized; the Howland Mills were established; the City Manufacturing Company, organized in April, began the erection of a mill in December, 1888, and the New Bedford Clearing House was formed in September. In 1889 the Bennett Manufacturing Company was formed, and the Acushnet Coöperative Bank was formed September 1st. Thus the city grew, and the first quarter of a century after the Civil War closed with New Bedford in number of spindles in operation standing third among the manufacturing cities of the country, Fall River being first and Lowell second. In number of looms she was fourth, Manchester, New Hampshire, outranking her, with the two cities just named.

While cotton manufacturing in New Bedford began in 1846 and 1847, the thousands of workers in her mills, factories, trades and professions were particularly identified with industries pertaining to whaling and the demands of the merchant marine. But the period 1865-90 reversed conditions, and from ruins of a structure built upon an uncertain foundation, arose a great and stable manufacturing city. The city had grown from a village in 1790 with its 3,000 population to 40,000 in 1890. The men who had borne the burden and heat of the day in the earlier history had passed to their reward, and a new generation had arisen which in turn had been gathered to their fathers, and the business of the city had passed into the hands of sons and grandsons of the founders of the city, while the advantages offered had attracted capital and strong men from outside.

---

## CHAPTER IX.

### FROM 1890 TO 1916—INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

The greatest celebration in the city's history occurred October 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14, 1897, when the semi-centennial of the incorporation was carried out. The committee on celebration was headed by Mayor Charles S. Ashley as chairman; Stephen A. Brownell, vice-chairman; Zephaniah W. Pease, secretary, and James L. Hathaway, treasurer. Upon the opening day, William W. Crapo and George F. Tucker delivered addresses, and a great chorus sang a semi-centennial ode. Upon succeeding days there were processions and sports. A dinner was an incident, at which addresses were delivered by Attorney-General Hosea M. Knowlton, Governor Roger Walcott, and Senator Henry Cabot Lodge.

It has now been seventy years since New Bedford incorporated as a city with a population of about 13,000. Its population in 1890 was 40,733, and in 1918 it was 118,159, according to the Federal census the fourth city in the State in number of inhabitants. It ranks first in the United States in the manufacture of fine grades of cotton goods and fine cotton yarns, and first among the fine goods mills in the number of spindles in operation.

The cotton mills ran to full capacity all through the year, mechanics and laborers were better employed than for several years, merchants wholesale and retail experienced a general prosperous year (1918) while the National and Savings banks of the city and the Trust Company did the largest business in their history. The credit of the New Bedford cotton mill corporations is unsurpassed, as during the sixty-nine years they have been engaged in the making of cotton cloths and yarns they have paid one hundred cents on every dollar of indebtedness, and their 1916 statement showed them stronger than ever before financially. Also their reputation for producing goods of the highest quality has been fully maintained.

But there is other manufacturing of many kinds conducted in this city. The New Bedford Cordage Company, with \$400,000 capital, is a survival of the early days when the outfitting of ships and the marine trade was at its zenith. The company was founded in 1842 by Joseph Ricketson, William J.



Rotch and Benjamin S. Roth, and incorporated in 1846 with a capital of \$60,000, increased in 1849 to \$75,000; later to \$200,000, and still later doubled. Other great corporations are the Taunton and New Bedford Copper Company, organized in 1860 with \$250,000 capital; the Morse Twist Drill and Machine Company, incorporated in 1864 with \$30,000, increased January 1883, to \$600,000. Stephen A. Morse, the inventor of the twist drill made by the company, began business in East Bridgewater, Massachusetts, and removed to New Bedford in 1865. The manufacture of glass here was commenced in 1861, by the New Bedford Glass Company. In 1869 the plant was purchased by W. L. Libbey & Co., became the Mount Washington Glass Company in 1871; was reorganized in 1876; and in 1894 became by consolidation a part of the Pairpont Manufacturing Company. Art manufacturing began early, the Tabers being early booksellers and art dealers. The firm of Charles Taber & Co. was a leader in that business for forty-five years. The Taber Art Company incorporated January 1, 1893, with a capital of \$300,000; became a part of the Taber-Prang Art Company in 1897, and in 1898 the business was removed to Springfield, Massachusetts. Shoe manufacturing has long been a great industry, the Cushing & Boucher and the E. E. Taylor companies being the present representatives of the business. Carriage building was commenced a century ago, by Josiah Brownell, in a small shop on the corner of Fourth and Spring streets; became an extensive industry at one time, and yet survives.

The demand of seafaring men created a great demand for ship-bread, and from 1822 to 1867, when the demand from whalers practically ceased, its manufacture was an important item. Samuel Watson carried on for forty years the bakery established in 1822 by Enoch Horton, who passed it on to Watson & Manchester, by whom it was sold to Mr. Watson. David A. Snell gained the widest reputation as a baker, he first establishing a bakery at the corner of William and North Water streets in 1857. He sold out in 1859, and at once established a patent oven and bakery, the first in New England, and during the Civil War operated his plant in executing large contracts for the Union army. The Snell Biscuit Company is founded on that business.

One of the great manufacturing and business houses of the place is the Pairpont Corporation, capitalization increased about 1918 to \$2,000,000. This was originally the Pairpont Manufacturing Company, organized in 1880, T. J. Pairpont, from whom the corporation takes its name, being the first superintendent. He resigned in 1885 and was succeeded by Thomas A. Tripp. The first building was erected in 1880, and additions have been constant until the plant now spreads out over a large area. The first capital of \$100,000 became \$400,000 in July, 1887, \$1,000,000 in 1896, and \$2,000,000 in 1917. The corporation acquired the Mount Washington Glass Company in 1894, and both in New Bedford and New York City maintain magnificent displays of their lines of manufacture. Their five exclusive lines there exhibited are cut-glass, silver-plate, electroliers, Sheffield reproductions and prize cups. Their products are unsurpassed for beauty in design and quality of workmanship, facts attested by their world-wide trade. Other large and important manufacturing corporations are the Blackmer Cut Glass Co., capital \$20,000; Continental Wood Screw Co., \$150,000; E. E. Taylor Co., \$1,000,000; George Kirby Jr. Paint Co., \$50,000; Morse Twist



Drill & Machine Co., \$600,000; New Bedford Cordage Co., \$400,000; New Bedford Gas and Edison Lob Light Co., \$1,590,000; Snell & Biscuit Co., \$400,000; Standard Ring Traveler Co., \$20,000; Taunton-New Bedford Copper Co., \$800,000; W. C. Jones Co., \$100,000; and many others. These figures were all of the date of about 1918.

The following was written for the History of Bristol county a few years ago:

Concerning the city of Bedford it may be said that the immense textile manufacturing business of Bedford has won for her great fame. Her whaling industry reached its greatest height in 1857, when the fleet consisted of three hundred and twenty-nine vessels of all kinds, requiring crews aggregating 10,000 men. The capital invested was about \$12,000,000 and the value of the catch in 1857 was in oil and bone \$6,178,728. The decline may best be understood by comparing the fleet of 1857 with that of the present (1918) day, when a few old ships and a dozen crafts comprised the fleet. In 1916 the value of the sperm oil catch of vessels owned in New Bedford was \$180,000. No whale oil nor whale bone was taken. Whale and sperm oil is yet refined and sperm candles and spermaceti manufactured by the Frank L. Young Co. It was this great whaling industry of the years prior to 1857 which was the stumbling-block in the way of the Wamsutta mills, the first cotton factory established in New Bedford. As it is now one of the greatest of the city's textile plants and known wherever cotton goods are used. In the autumn of 1846 Joseph Grinnell then Congressman from the New Bedford district, headed a subscription list with \$10,000 and secured for New Bedford a cotton mill which was intended for Georgia. A charter secured in 1846 by Abraham H. Howland from the Massachusetts legislature for a company styled the Wamsutta mills was turned over to Mr. Grinnell and his associates, who intended to secure \$300,000 capital and erect a cotton mill of 15,000 spindles and 300 looms. But capital was enamored with whaling investment and its sure profits and hardly noticed such a common place suggestion as the erection of a cotton mills. So the best that could be done was \$160,000 and with this they were obliged to start. Mill No. 1 was built to accommodate 15,000 spindles and 300 looms as intended, but the company was obliged to start the mill with 10,000 spindles and 200 looms. The machinery was started in 1849, all the overseers, carpenters, machinists and operatives being brought from Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts towns. To provide living accommodations for these the company was compelled to build and maintain tenements and boarding houses. The first product of the mill was the since famous Wamsutta sheeting. In 1854 the capital was increased to \$600,000 and a second mill was built. From that date to the present expansion of plant and capital have been frequent, the eight mills of the company (in 1918) making over two hundred varieties of cotton goods. Joseph Grinnell, first president, died February 7, 1885, and was succeeded by Andrew G. Pierce, who had been treasurer for thirty years. Mr. Pierce was succeeded as president by William W. Crapo and again became treasurer of the company. Later Edward T. Pierce acted as treasurer of the mill a long period."

The success of the Wamsutta mills and the gradual falling away of profits of whaling, induced capital to look more favorably upon cotton manufacturing in New Bedford. In 1871 the first of the Potomska Mills was built in the south end of the city. This company was formed with a capital of \$600,000 which has since been doubled. James Robinson president, was succeeded by Edward Kilburn, he by Andrew J. Pierce also a one-time president and long time treasurer of the Wamsutta mills. With 1881 the "boom" was ushered in. Came the Grinnell Manufacturing Co. in 1882, the Acushnet Mill Corporation, the Oneko Woolen Mills, the New Bedford Manufacturing Co. all in the same year; in 1888-89 the City Manufacturing Co., the Howland Mills Corporation, with William D. Howland its first treasurer, the Hathaway Manufacturing Co., the Bennett Manufacturing Co., all were organized. The Bristol Manufacturing, the Columbia Spinning, the Pierce and the Rotch Spinning companies all date their existence from 1892; the Whitman Mill from 1895; the Dartmouth since 1896 and the others came in rapid succession. For equipment and product of New Bedford mills. 1922:

Name	No. Mills	Capital	Bonds	Spindles	Looms	Employees	PRODUCT
Acushnet Mfg. Co. ....	3	\$1,500,000	.....	114,240	3,462	1,300	Sateens, Twills, Shirtings, Plain and Silk Filled Goods.
Beacon Mfg. Co., Com. ....	1	1,200,000	.....	17,472	.....	1,530	Blankets and Napped Goods.
Beacon Mfg. Co., Pfd. ....	.....	1,000,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Booth Mfg. Co., Com. ....	2	852,800	\$59,000	56,164	1,354	700	Plain, Fancies and Silk Goods and Novelties.
Booth Mfg. Co., Pfd. ....	.....	527,400	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bristol Mfg. Co. ....	1	1,000,000	.....	67,040	1,876	650	Cotton and Silk Goods, Plain and Fancies, and Novelty Constructions.
Butler Mill .....	1	2,000,000	.....	125,000	2,800	1,200	Fine Cotton, Plain and Fancies, Yarns.
City Mfg. Co. ....	2	750,000	.....	59,064	Yarn	600	Carded and Combed Yarn from Peeler, Egyptian and Sea Island Cotton.
Dartmouth Mfg. Corp., Com. ....	3	2,000,000	175,000	200,000	5,600	2,200	Plain, Fancy and Jacquard Cotton and Silk Goods.
Dartmouth Mfg. Corp., Pfd. ....	.....	600,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fairhaven Mills, Com. ....	5	1,500,000	.....	209,000	Yarn	2,000	Spinners of Carded and Combed Yarn, Egyptian and Sea Island Specialties. Also Cord Tire Fabric.
Fairhaven Mills, Pfd. ....	.....	2,000,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gosnold Mills Co., Com. ....	3	1,650,000	.....	141,438	4,940	1,700	Fine Goods, Plain and Fancies, Jacquard, Silk and Cotton Mixtures.
Gosnold Mills Co., Pfd. ....	.....	1,650,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grinnell Mfg. Corp. ....	3	1,500,000	.....	126,000	3,135	1,000	Fine Cotton Goods, Plain and Fancies and with Silk Filling.
Hathaway Mfg. Co. ....	2	1,600,000	.....	111,012	3,194	1,300	Sateens, Twills, Shirtings, Plain and Silk Filled Goods.
Holmes Mfg. Co., Com. ....	1	600,000	.....	69,552	Yarn	1,000	Fine Combed Yarns, Gassed, Mercerized, Bleached and Dyed, Commercial Mercerizing.
Holmes Mfg. Co., Pfd. ....	.....	600,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kilburn Mills .....	2	1,500,000	.....	126,032	None	1,250	Combed Cotton Yarns.
Manomet Mills .....	4	8,000,000	.....	318,480	64	4,500	Combed Cotton Yarns and Cord Tire Fabric.
Nashawena Mills .....	3	4,500,000	.....	203,000	4,400	2,200	Plain and Fancy Cotton and Jacquard Silk Novelties.
Neild Mfg. Corp. ....	1	800,000	150,000	62,600	1,500	500	Plain and Fancies, Silk and Mercerized Specialties.
†Nemasket Mills, Com. ....	1	300,000	.....	30,000	Yarn	250	Spinners of Combed and Carded Yarn, Egyptian and Sea Island Specialties.
†Nemasket Mills, Pfd. ....	.....	300,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
N. B. Cot. Mills Corp., Com. ....	1	350,000	21,500	73,000	1,400	680	Fine Cotton Goods, Plain and Fancies.
N. B. Cot. Mills Corp., Pfd. ....	.....	750,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Nonquitt Spinning Co. ....	2	4,800,000	.....	196,000	Yarn	1,600	Combed Cotton Yarns.
Passaic Cotton Mills, Com. ....	7	200,000	.....	156,028*	1,200*	3,700*	Tire Fabrics and Specialties.
Passaic Cotton Mills, Pfd. ....	.....	1,373,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pierce Bros., Ltd. ....	1	700,000	.....	51,400	1,200	400	Fine Combed Yarn Cloths.
Pierce Mfg. Corp. ....	2	600,000	.....	116,008	3,426	1,000	Fancy and Fine Cotton and Silk Goods.
Potomaska Mills .....	3	1,200,000	.....	117,100	2,736	1,200	India Linons, and Lawns and Fancies.
Quissett Mills, Com. ....	1	1,250,000	4,000	80,000	Yarn	900	Spinners of Combed and Carded Yarns, all Plys and Descriptions, Egyptians and Sea Island Specialties.
Quissett Mills, Pfd. ....	.....	305,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sharp Mfg. Co., Com. ....	2	2,656,000	.....	200,000	Yarn	2,000	Fine Combed Yarns.
Sharp Mfg. Co., Pfd. ....	.....	1,161,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Soule Mills .....	1	1,260,000	.....	92,640	2,300	900	Plain and Fancy Shirting, Handkerchiefs, Corset Cloth and Novelties.
Taber Mills .....	2	1,200,000	.....	70,720	1,700	700	Fancy Goods, and Lawns, Novelties in Fine Goods and Silks.
Wamsutta Mills .....	8	4,000,000	.....	227,000	3,400	2,400	Bleached and Brown Sheetting, Sheets and Pillow Cases, Shirtings, Lawns, Sateens, Fancies and Yarns.
Whitman Mills .....	2	2,000,000	.....	177,608	4,780	2,000	Finest Plain and Fancy Cotton Goods; also Cotton and Silk Mixtures and Fine Yarns.
70		\$61,735,200	\$409,500	3,593,598	54,467	41,360	

†Located in Taunton, but owned in New Bedford.

\*In New Bedford, according to last information available.



A striking feature of New Bedford's prosperity in 1916 was the number and estimated cost of new buildings in course of construction. The city applied for permits to expend nearly a half million dollars in new buildings, including a new fire station, a police station, municipal baths, a pumping station and a portable schoolhouse. Private corporations applied for permits to build three new cotton mills and additions to other cotton mills or cotton mill storehouses. The New Bedford Gas and Electric Light Company built and equipped a thoroughly modern power station at a cost of a million and a half dollars, and the Morse Twist Drill & Machine Company began a large addition. The Cheney building in the dry goods district and the Holmes coal handling plants are examples of the substantial buildings and extensions erected for business purposes in all parts of the city.

No better proof of New Bedford's claim to be one of the fastest growing municipalities in the East is needed than the fact that during the year 1922 an excess of \$7,000,000 were spent by the people of this city in constructing new homes, new churches, new tenements and new garages for themselves. The City Government alone spent \$135,404.29 upon repairs and alterations to school houses and other public buildings. The following extract from the annual report of the Superintendent of Public Buildings for 1922 is of interest, showing as it does the recent building activity during the past year in New Bedford, the record of the year for expenditure in building exceeding that of any previous year in the history of the city:

A total of \$7,057,240 was expended for new construction in the city of New Bedford during the year 1922, the largest expenditure for construction work in the history of the city. The next largest year was in 1910 when \$7,037,337 was expended. The increase in 1922 was \$1,240,609. The number of building permits granted for construction work in the city in 1922 was 1,216, the largest since the year 1913, when 1,245 building permits were granted.

The building figures for the year 1922 are all the more significant in view of the fact that more than half of the total expenditures was for dwelling house construction while in the year 1910 there was a large volume of industrial construction. The year 1910 was big boom year, when in addition to the industrial construction there were erected 639 dwellings, as compared with 544 erected in 1922. There were added in 1922 880 new tenements, 374 more than in 1921, and the greatest number added in the last ten years.

Another significant item of construction during the year 1922 was the large number of garages erected, 477 of them as compared with 352 in 1921. The cost of garage construction in 1922 was \$643,740. Of the 544 new dwelling houses added in 1922, 320 of them were of the two-family type and 216 were of the one-family or cottage type. The building statistics for 1922 are classified as follows:

New Dwellings .....	544	\$3,917,600
Buildings for manufacturing and business purposes .....	8	528,500
Buildings for religious purposes .....	2	100,000
Buildings for educational purposes .....	2	146,000
Buildings for hospital purposes .....	2	70,000
Buildings for theatrical purposes .....	2	325,000
Buildings for apartment houses .....	2	100,000
Buildings for banking purposes .....	1	200,000
Stores singly and in block .....	71	577,500
Garages .....	477	643,740
Alterations and repairs .....	77	247,700
Miscellaneous .....	28	65,800
	<hr/> 1216	<hr/> \$6,921,840



City buildings, alterations, and repairs to school-houses and other buildings .....		135,400
Total .....	1216	\$7,057,240

During the past winter two fine modern theatres have been built in the center of the city, the Empire and the Zeiterion, each at a cost of approximately \$250,000. These complete a trio of modern theatres of concrete and steel construction, beautifully finished in their interior and located in the very heart of the city's business district.

New Bedford's modern and beautiful hotel, which was completed last year, and which has two hundred rooms with baths, has, during the past year, fulfilled the greatest need not only of New Bedford but of Bristol County. It has been patronized to a great extent by automobile tourists to and from Cape Cod, which is rapidly becoming the "Playground of the Country," this summer.

New Bedford makes no pretensions of being a fishing center of any importance like Gloucester or Boston, but the amount handled is not insignificant; a century and a half has passed since New Bedford's history began as a definite part of the Great Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as well as the old town of Dartmouth as "Bedford Village." She has suffered as few cities have, and triumphed. She has long since been known as the leader in the production of textile manufactures. There is strength and solidity about her institutions, civic, religious, educational and commercial, that satisfies, and in all that goes to make a modern city there seems nothing lacking at this time—1923.

---

## CHAPTER X.

### BANKS AND BANKING

Just who the early bankers, so called, in old Dartmouth were, we cannot state. Such currency as was needed evidently came from without. At first the currency used in England was utilized here, later the "Continental Money," and still later the paper currency of Boston and other New England private concerns, authorized by the State but not guaranteed by the legislature. Indeed, it was not the need of the banks of issue that caused the banks of old Dartmouth to be established. It was for banks of discount rather than issue that the demand arose. The industry of the community was based purely on its maritime transactions. It soon became known that the people must be protected in their banking operations. Marine insurance companies were formed. All the banks of Dartmouth were to some extent the outgrowth of the needs of insurance companies of the marine type. Groups of men especially interested as the managers of the several marine insurance companies, organized the banks to aid the insurance companies in handling their risks.

**Bedford Bank.**—It was in this way that the first bank of Old Dartmouth, the Bedford, came into existence in 1803, and affiliated with the Bedford Marine Insurance Company, legalized a year or two later. Sixty thousand dollars seemed an ambitious capital, yet it was subscribed, and the bank was enlarged in capital, performing its functions until 1812, when the war with England injured all business and this bank had to close its doors.

In 1816 the Bedford Bank was resurrected under the name of the Bedford Commercial Bank, and as such existed as a State Bank until 1864, when it was forced, as well as all the State banks, to reorganize under the National banking system, taking as its name the National Bank of Commerce, and as such continued until 1918, when it was liquidated after an honorable existence of ninety-five years, discharging its obligations and returning to its stockholders the capital they had invested.

The charter of this bank, extended in the record, was adopted by the Massachusetts Legislature, and approved by Governor Caleb Strong on March 7, 1803. It is a most elaborate act of incorporation, containing provisions afterward embodied in different forms in the general banking laws. William Rotch, Jr., Samuel Rodman and Edward Pope are named as the incorporators. The charter ended 1812, and the \$60,000 capital was to be paid in silver or gold. The circulation was limited to twice the amount of the capital, and the loaning capacity was likewise limited to twice the amount of the capital. The Commonwealth could if it so elected take an additional \$30,000 in the stock of the enterprise. No stockholder could have more than ten votes, no matter how much stock he might own in the enterprise. One section of the charter was unique and read as follows: "And be it further enacted that one-eighth part of the whole stock or fund of said Bank shall always be appropriated to loans to be made to citizens of this commonwealth, and wherein the Directors shall exclusively regard the Agricultural interests, which loans shall be made in sums not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, and upon the personal bond of the borrower, and collateral security by sufficient mortgage of real estate for a term of not less than one year." In 1803-4 the bank was authorized by the Legislature to increase its capital to \$150,000.

The records make constant reference to the printing, signing and burning of the bills of the bank. John Maybin, of Philadelphia, on July 11, 1803, "shipt per sloop Eliza C. Norton, Mast', for New Bedford Bank 1 box containing 5,670 sheets of paper; 1 box containing a bank mold; 58 water mark letters, \$152.13." This paper was kept by the bank and sent from time to time to Samuel Hill, engraver, of Boston, who probably held the "mold." For instance, in 1803 there is an entry: "This day delivered to Andrew Swain two hundred sheets of our NEW paper to be struck off in Boston by S. Hill engraver." Later "Received the above mentioned paper from Boston, one hundred and ninety-nine and a half of which sheets were impressed with \$27,735, the remaining half sheet was returned torn from Boston and burned by the directors." The above sheets were struck in denominations as follows: \$5, \$10, \$20, \$30, \$7, \$8, \$9, \$50. That fine descriptive writer, Mr. Ricketson, says of this institution: "Behind the front counter and opposite the entrance door was the fireplace of wood, which in earlier days and up to 1826 was the only method of warming the room, and on cold days of winter a cheerful fire was seen within it, sputtering and singing away to the chime of the jingling gold and silver."

In 1883 the National Bank of Commerce decided to build a new banking structure on the old site. On the north side of the entrance to the new building, where the whaling trophies have since been kept, the traditional business of insurance was carried on, no longer marine for the most part, but fire. Here Samuel H. Cook, on the very spot where he



had worked for the Ocean Mutual, had his insurance offices so long as the bank continued to use the building. For nearly a century until about 1890, Water street between Union street and William street was the Wall street of New Bedford. Practically, all the banks, insurance offices, brokers, lawyers and telegraph offices were concentrated within these limits.

The Merchants National Bank, affiliated with and inspired by the Merchants' Insurance Company, came into existence in 1825, and had its charter renewed in 1831, and with the everchanging conditions of bank existence, the varying laws of regulation, the State and National requirements, the complete change in the nature of the business of the community, it attained and has maintained its position as the most influential bank in the community. The first president and guiding star in the Merchants' Bank was John Avery Parker, born in 1769, who moved to New Bedford in 1803. Associated with him was James B. Congdon. These two men made a team which always pulled together, though of much different temperament. The present building was opened in 1916. The officers in 1923: President, Henry C. W. Mosher; vice-president, Otis N. Pierce; cashier, Henry W. Taber; assistant cashier, James H. Coffin; directors: Henry C. W. Mosher, William W. Wood, Otis N. Pierce, Henry S. Knowles, Henry L. Tiffany, John W. Knowles, James E. Stanton, jr., William F. Read, John Duff, J. Henry Herring, William Ritchie, James Thomson. At the close of business September 14, 1923, loans and discounts amounted to \$7,651,659.89; capital stock paid in, \$1,000,000; the surplus fund, \$1,500,000.

The Fairhaven Bank and the Fairhaven Insurance Company were chartered the same day, the enterprise being established by a group of Fairhaven whaling merchants. Both the bank and the insurance company had capitals of \$100,000; in 1836 the bank's capital was increased to \$200,000. Its present capital is \$120,000. At the time when the whaling industry ceased to be profitable any longer, the merchants of Fairhaven were sorely smitten and the bank of course sustained heavy losses, yet it was able to adjust itself to the new condition and has since gradually attained a position of prosperous stability. Its resources are now about a half million dollars. Its first president was Ezekiel Swain, who served thirty-one years. He was also a heavy whaling ship merchant.

The Mechanics' Bank and the Mechanics' Insurance Company were incorporated under separate legislative acts in June, 1831. A majority of the incorporators of both corporations were one and the same. It was Isaac Howland who signed the notice to the subscribers for the meeting of organization. Thomas A. Greene was chairman, and James Thornton secretary. William R. Rodman was elected president, and James B. Congdon was made cashier, but soon withdrew in favor of his brother, Joseph Congdon, whose salary was fixed at \$1,000 per year, which was not increased for twenty-six years. The bank's first capital was \$200,000; in 1854 it was raised to \$400,000, and in 1857 to \$600,000, its present capital. In 1864 the stockholders voted to surrender their charter and organize a national bank. For about two years there were two separate banks in operation. The bank paid in dividends six per cent. a year for about a half century. Among the interesting records of this institution is the following: "This bank together with all the other banks in the vicinity, suspended specie payments (May 12, 1837), or in other words, ceased to redeem their bills



on demand." This entry is not to be construed literally. The bills were redeemed in perfectly good money, but not in coin. Occasionally the difficulty in obtaining specie was so great that almost all the banks of the country were forced now and then to suspend specie payments. At the time of the Civil War the suspension was practically universal. The resumption of specie payments after the war was looked forward to with much apprehension, which was not justified by the event. The trouble in obtaining specie in 1837 and 1838 is evidence by the entries in the records urging the cashier to purchase it on the "best terms available." November 25, 1837, at a special meeting of the directors, Mr. Congdon was authorized to represent the bank at "The Convention of Banks in New York," held, doubtless, to consider the general situation. An entry in the bank record reads, January, 1836:

On the 13th instant the cashier committed to the care of John Sargent (of this town) \$2,000 in bank bills to be delivered to the Suffolk Bank in Boston. They were not delivered in Boston as requested but lost on the road. On the 19th instant, said bundle containing two thousand dollars was found and returned to this bank in safety by ——— Godfrey, wagon-driver on the line between N. Bedford and Boston. Whereupon, voted: that the cashier be authorized to pay to the said Godfrey the sum of Fifty dollars it being a reward for finding and returning to this bank said package containing \$2,000. Voted: That the cashier is authorized to pay to said John Sargent the sum of ten dollars and ninety-one cents, it being the amount expended by him in searching for said money.

The Mechanics' Bank received its Federal charter in June, 1864, retaining its State charter, however, till March, 1865. At that time it had outstanding a considerable amount of circulation which under the terms of the National banking law was redeemable within two years. After two years the old bills were outlawed, but so far as known no New Bedford bank ever took advantage of this statute of limitation. Even within this century the bank has redeemed bills issued by it prior to 1864.

The new National Bank picked up 5-20 U. S. bonds amounting to \$600,000, an amount which represented the entire capital stock, by the deposit of which in the U. S. Treasury it could obtain the right to issue \$540,000 of National Bank bills. The troublesome question was how to get these bonds from the old vault on Water street to the Treasury building in Washington. There were two or three so-called "express" companies in New Bedford, brought into existence about 1850 by the building of a railroad between New Bedford and Taunton. Hatch, Gray & Company are perhaps the best recalled. The directors of the Mechanics' Bank, however, did not consider it safe to trust so much value to agents who would be quite unable to make good any miscarriage. It was decided that two officers of the bank should take the bonds to Washington. The cashier, Eliphalet W. Hervey, being a salaried officer, was naturally selected as one; the other, it was determined should be a member of the board of directors. Thomas Mandell, the president, said he was much too old for the job. John R. Thornton simply said he would not. Thomas Wilcox was too modest, wherefore by natural process of elimination the job was wished on William W. Crapo, the youngest member of the Board, then about thirty-five years of age. No extra compensation was suggested. The Bank did, however, pay the bare traveling expenses of its messengers. Mr. Crapo and Mr. Hervey obtained an old well-worn carpet-bag in which the

\$600,000 of government bonds was stored, and going to Fall River by team took the boat to New York. Mr. Crapo could not recall a few years since whether it was Mr. Hervey or himself that slept with the precious carpet-bag, but together they had it in the state room, and together they carried it up to the Astor House in the morning and took a room and deposited it on the floor. Mr. Hervey went down stairs and had some breakfast, Mr. Crapo guarding the bag in the chamber, and then, in turn, Mr. Hervey guarded the bag while Mr. Crapo went down stairs to his breakfast; and then together they guarded the bag until the next train was ready to leave Jersey City for Washington, which was not until noontime. In those days of the war, traveling was neither luxurious nor safe. The train, called a "mixed train," was crowded with soldiers and camp-followers, and assault and robbery were incidents to be expected. The carpet-bag was placed on the floor of the car, closely between them, and they tried to appear unconcerned. The train reached Washington long after the Treasury Department had closed, and the guarding of the bag was continued in the old Willard Hotel, with watches turn and turn about. As soon as the Treasury was opened the next morning, two tired, travel-worn men deposited their old carpet-bag with the Treasurer of the United States. A considerable time was taken in checking up the bonds and listing the numbers and fulfilling necessary formalities. In the end, a receipt was issued to the Mechanics' Bank, and Mr. Hervey and Mr. Crapo, with a feeling of intense relief, walked down Pennsylvania avenue and had a bite for breakfast. Mr. Crapo subsequently became, through various employments, extremely familiar with the Treasury Department, its methods and varying personnel, and twenty years later he drafted and, as chairman of the finance committee of the Congress, was instrumental in the legislation which renewed the National Bank charters, yet nothing connected with the Treasury or the National Bank system has ever made so deep an impression on him as that perilous journey from New Bedford to Washington with the old carpet-bag bulging with more than a half million dollars precious bonds.

In 1833 this bank moved to a new building, which still stands. In 1914 the present bank building was commenced, and is a handsome structure of modern architecture. The first president of this bank was William Rotch Rodman, who served twenty years and was counted an aristocrat by some, but a truer, kinder man never lived in New Bedford. The first cashier was Joseph Congdon, who wore a swallow-tailed coat. He carried parched corn in his vest pocket, and was continually nibbling at it in banking hours.

The First National, formerly the Marine Bank, was an old concern when the Civil War came on, and when it became a National bank, it was the first in New Bedford to make the change. Its first president was Joseph Grinnell, who served fifty years. John Williams, Jr., the original cashier of the old Marine Bank that preceded this National bank, was an able man. Later he went into banking in New York City. The statement at close of business, September 14, 1923: Loans and discounts, \$7,536,045.28; capital stock, \$500,000; cash and due from banks, \$1,597,687.06; deposits, \$10,802,569.23. The officers: President, Irving W. Cook; vice-president, Harry C. Robinson; cashier, Frank B. Chase; assistant cashiers, William C. Phillips and Louis W. Tucker; directors: Walter H. Bassett, Charles F. Broughton, Edward S. Brown, Irving W. Cook, Henry H. Crapo, Herbert



E. Cushman, Stanislaus Desautels, Thomas F. Glennon, Thomas S. Hathaway, Charles M. Holmes, Joseph T. Kenney, William A. Mackie, Clarence Obrion, Andrew G. Pierce, Jr., Edward T. Pierce, William F. Potter, Oliver Prescott, Frederick D. Stetson, Thomas A. Tripp, William R. West, Ernest A. Wheaton.

In 1872 Joseph Arthur Beauvais formed a partnership with Thomas B. Fuller, of Fairhaven, and they engaged in private banking in New Bedford, taking deposits, making loans, dealing in securities and acting as financial advisers. They located at the corner of Water and Center streets, opposite the Commercial Bank. In 1875 the Citizens' National Bank was organized and the business of Beauvais & Company was taken over by it. Mr. Beauvais was president, and Mr. Fuller cashier. The original capital was \$250,000, later increased to \$500,000. In 1891 the bank moved into new modern banking quarters at Second and William streets; in 1899 the bank liquidated for the purpose of uniting with the Mechanics' National Bank.

The first savings banks in this country were established at Newburyport and Boston early in the nineteenth century about 1807, and next came the one at New Bedford, the New Bedford Institution for Savings, established in 1825. Its founders had no motives of self-interest, and expected no profit to themselves. They were men of broad minds who wanted the poorer classes to get the weekly habit of laying up for that inevitable "rainy day," and in that they succeeded in building up what has come to be a nationwide savings bank system. The prime movers in the establishing of this bank included the Rotch, Russell, Grinnell, Robeson, Haskell, Howland, Shearman, Greene, Nye, Warren and Morgan families. The first meeting was held July 19, 1825, at the counting room of Samuel Rodman, Jr. The first deposit of fifty dollars was made August 15, 1825. In the first two weeks \$950 had been deposited by eleven persons. The first report in December, 1825, shows a total of \$13,050. The report for the same day in 1916 showed the deposits to be \$19,841,265.15. There were at the last date named 40,155 depositors, and resources of \$21,766,193.59. The institution has never passed a semi-annual dividend. Abraham Shearman, Jr., was the first treasurer. At first the bank was only open from twelve to one o'clock each Monday, but soon had regular daily office hours. They rented a building until 1833, when one was built by the bank, costing \$8,000. In 1853 another location was sought out and a bank building constructed of brown freestone blocks. The lots and bank edifice cost \$18,000. It still stands, having been used after its abandonment for a bank, as the courthouse of the Third District Court of Bristol. Here the savings bank had its home forty-three years until 1897, when it moved to its present stately home. There have been erected many other fine banks within this county, but it is doubtful whether any banking house hereafter built can vie with the Old Savings Bank of New Bedford in the quality of its Sienna marble and San Domingo mahogany. It has hanging on its walls the portrait of William Rotch, Jr., the first president, who served twenty-six years and lived until he was ninety-one years of age. On September 29, 1923, this bank had deposits amounting to \$25,913,215.80. Its officers were: President, Thomas S. Hathaway; vice-presidents: Oliver Prescott and Joseph T. Kenney; treasurer, Elmer A. MacGowan, who succeeded George H. Batchelor in that office October 15, 1923; assistant treasurer, Philip E. Macy; secre-



tary of board of trustees, Henry S. Hutchinson; trustees: William A. Robinson, Edmund Wood, Edward T. Pierce, Henry H. Crapo, William W. Crapo, Thomas S. Hathaway, Oliver Prescott, Herbert E. Cushman, John W. Knowles, Benjamin Cummings, Benjamin H. Anthony, Edward S. Brown, George N. Alden, Henry S. Hutchinson, Edmund W. Bourne, Frederic H. Taber, Henry L. Tiffany, J. E. Norton Shaw, Elton S. Wilde, Charles M. Holmes, Charles S. Kelley, Joseph T. Kenney, Daniel W. Baker, John Duff, Charles O. Dexter, Frederick R. Fish, William F. Potter, Albert G. Mason, George H. Reynolds, James L. Humphrey, Jr., Charles F. Wing, Jr., Frank A. Milliken.

The Fairhaven Institution for Savings is known as "The National Bank of Fairhaven." It was established as a savings bank, April 19, 1831. Its early records show, "Voted, that the directors be a committee to erect a bank building with suitable provisions for an office for the Fairhaven Insurance Company." The record-book shows the first depositors and amounts deposited as follows: No. 1, James Neil, \$25, Fairhaven; No. 2, Thomas Pray, \$30, mariner; No. 3, Francis Silvara, \$50, mariner; No. 4, James H. Tilton, \$100, mariner; No. 5, Jacob T. Davis, \$200, mariner; No. 6, Sarah E. I. Hitch, \$7, Fairhaven. Received from six depositors \$412 (March 19, 1832). The first dividend declared called for five and one-half per cent. on deposits, agreeable to law. The first president was Ezekiel Swain, who served fourteen years. This institution was successful both as a strict savings institution and later in its history as a National Bank.

The New Bedford Savings Bank having proved so useful to the community, it was deemed wise to establish another savings bank, which would care for the savings of another class of citizens—the New Bedford Five Cents Savings Bank. The motive of the men who started this later savings bank is shown by the fact that five cents might be deposited instead of "not less than one dollar," as was the position taken by the older savings bank of the place. Thomas B. White was one of the incorporators and sent out the first call for an organizing meeting, which was held in the Marine Bank. The date was May 5, 1855. The State charter was granted in April, 1855; George Howland, Jr., was elected president, and Henry H. Crapo and Alexander H. Seabury, vice-presidents. The institution leased various rooms for many years, rather than build a bank building. Finally, in March, 1891, the bank purchased the old "Tannery Lot" over which much litigation has been had with the passing years, and there erected the bank. At the close of business September 29, 1923, the amount due 41,218 depositors was \$16,940,821.36. To meet the depositors the bank had bonds amounting to \$7,160,002.15, and loans and other stock amounting in total to \$19,075,795.48. The total surplus was \$17,302,752.02. The officers of the bank: President, Jireh Swift, Jr., who succeeded Loum Snow in 1916; vice-presidents, Otis N. Pierce and John H. Clifford; treasurer, William F. Turner; assistant treasurer, Arthur W. Austin. The bank to date has had three presidents: George Howland, Jr., May 5, 1855, to February 18, 1892; Loum Snow, Jr., April 18, 1892, to January 6, 1916; Jireh Swift, Jr., January 1, 1916—. William H. Pitman was elected assistant to the president January 15, 1923. The vice-presidents: Henry H. Crapo, 1855-57; Alexander H. Seabury, 1855-73; Dennis Wood, 1858-78; Frederick S. Allen, 1874-76; Lemuel M. Kollock, 1879-88; Walter Clifford,

1889-1911; Otis N. Pierce, 1897; John H. Clifford, 1911. Secretary, Charles Almy, May 5, 1855, to March 4, 1877. Clerks: Charles Almy, March 4, 1877, to November 1, 1886; George R. Phillips, November 22, 1886, to January 11, 1887; James Taylor, January 11, 1887, to February 22, 1907; George H. H. Allen, April 9, 1907—. Treasurers: John P. Barker, May 9, 1855, to October 10, 1855; James C. Ricketson, October 10, 1855, to April 6, 1861; Barton Ricketson, Jr., April 6, 1861, to June 1, 1889; William H. Pitman, Jr., June 3, 1889, to January 15, 1923; William F. Turner, January 15, 1923.

The New Bedford Co-operative Bank was organized July 8, 1881, chartered July 11, that year, and commenced business August 19. Its location is at 41 William street. The officers are: President, Lot B. Bates; vice-president, Edward E. F. Potter; treasurer, William F. Desmond; directors, Frederic Taber, Henry W. Tripp, Edward E. F. Potter, Benjamin A. Tripp, Lot B. Bates, John Gibson, Edward F. Nicholson, Seth J. Besse, Samuel F. Winsper, Charles R. Price, William B. Gardner, Frederick H. Taber, James O. Thompson, Jr., Elliot H. Wefer, William F. Desmond. The dues capital in 1923 amounted to \$1,170,870; the profits capital, \$215,-414.26; real estate loans were \$1,552,525; number of shares in force were 28,319.

The statement of condition of the Safe Deposit National Bank to September 14, 1923, was as follows: Loans and discounts, \$6,355,573.62; capital stock, \$350,000. The officers: President, William S. Cook, who succeeded Edwin S. Bourne, July 1, 1922; vice-presidents: Benjamin Wilcox, Frederic H. Taber, Charles S. Ashley; cashier, A. P. Cunningham; assistant cashiers, Harry I. Gifford, Marcus M. Gray; directors: Chairman Frederic Taber, William S. Cook, Benjamin Wilcox, Frederic H. Taber, Charles S. Ashley, Lot B. Bates, Charles F. Cushing, William B. Gardner, Rufus A. Soule, Jr., George R. Cherry, Elliot H. Wefer, Charles O. Dexter, John Sullivan, Otis S. Cook, Walter H. Underdown, William S. Bourne, Charles F. Wing, Alphonso H. Smith, William A. Robinson, Jr., John Neild, E. Eugene Ashley, Frank Croacher, Joseph M. Read. The former Textile Trust Company was taken over by this bank, April 15, 1922.

The Acushnet Co-operative Bank, 41 William street, was organized November 12, 1889, chartered November 18, that year, and commenced business November 16. The officers in 1923: President, Frederic Taber; vice-president, Elliot H. Wefer; treasurer, William F. Desmond; directors: Lot B. Bates, Frederic Taber, Henry W. Tripp, Edward E. F. Potter, Charles R. Price, Samuel F. Winsper, Edward F. Nicholson, William B. Gardner, Elliot H. Wefer, Frederic H. Taber, John Gibson, Benjamin A. Tripp, Seth J. Besse, James O. Thompson, Jr., William F. Desmond. The dues capital amount to \$889,568; the profitis capital, \$150,482.71; real estate loans, \$1,125,100; number of shares in force, 23,210.

In March, 1916, a Morris Plan Bank was incorporated under the laws of Massachusetts, and organized in New Bedford. Its capital is \$100,000. The object of this bank is to make small loans to persons of small means who repay the same in weekly payments. It was an innovation in banking systems and has proven a success. During its first year's history it loaned \$140,000 to borrowers; one thousand persons borrowed this money.



## CHAPTER XI.

## THE PROFESSIONS—LAW AND MEDICINE

**Lawyers and Judges**—In 1767 there was reported only four lawyers in Bristol county, viz: Hon. Samuel White, Robert T. Payne, Daniel Leonard, and George Leonard, of Norton. The members of the bar, residents of New Bedford, who died or retired from practice between 1779 and 1834, were Peleg Sprague, John M. Williams, R. H. Williams, Thomas Hammond, James Washburn, John Nye, and John S. Russell. In 1834 there were practicing in Bristol county and residents of New Bedford the following: Lemuel Williams, Charles H. Warren, Timothy G. Coffin, W. J. A. Bradford, Ezra Bassett, John Burrage, Thomas D. Eliot, John C. Clifford, Oliver Prescott, and John H. W. Page. In this list were to be found men of celebrity as jurists and statesmen.

All the sessions of the early courts were held in Taunton, but in 1828 the Legislature created New Bedford a half-shire town, and a local court was held in the old town hall on Second street. Judge Williams was the first presiding judge in New Bedford. A law enacted in 1834 created a police court in the town of New Bedford, in which Nathaniel S. Spooner was the first justice of the peace. The Superior Court of Bristol County for civil cases holds its terms in New Bedford, as does the court for criminal cases. A session of the Supreme Judicial Court meets at New Bedford for the counties of Bristol, Nantucket and Dukes. A probate and an insolvency court also holds regular sessions in New Bedford.

In the role of county judges the oldest was Edward Pope. He was a man of ability and long judicial experience. He was also collector of the port, and judge of the Court of Common Pleas. Oliver Prescott, upon first coming to New Bedford after his graduation at Harvard, class of 1828, taught the Friends' Academy. Later he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1832. In 1845 he was elected police judge of New Bedford. He was appointed in 1858 as judge of probate, and for fifty years was in the public eye as a professional man, and won an enviable reputation. He passed from earth in 1890, aged eighty-four years. George Marston, graduate of Harvard Law School, was admitted to the bar in 1845, removing to New Bedford in 1869. In 1879 he was elected attorney-general of the State, resigning that office. He died in 1883. Lincoln Flagg Brigham from Dartmouth College in 1842 entered law school at Harvard, but in 1845 was admitted to the bar, becoming a law partner of John H. Clifford. On January 28, 1869, he was appointed chief justice of the Superior Court. He retired from public life in 1890. Robert C. Pitman was one of the old school lawyers, born in New Bedford, came to the bar in 1847. He later served as judge of the police court, and was also a State Senator. He was elevated to the Superior bench, but soon retired from politics, devoting his entire time to his profession; he died in March, 1891. Edwin L. Barney, another old-school attorney, was born in 1827. He attended Brown University and Yale University Law School. He came to the bar of this county in 1850; was State Senator two years, city solicitor a number of years, and judge-advocate on General Butler's staff. Thomas M. Stetson, born in June, 1830, son of Rev. Caleb Stetson, graduated from Harvard in 1849, studied law under



good lawyers and at the Dane Law School, Cambridge. He was admitted to the bar in 1854, and was a law partner of several well known law firms in New England. He conducted the famous Sylvia Ann Howland will case, the most interesting and hardest contested case ever known in New England courts. Another brilliant lawyer of New Bedford was Hosea M. Knowlton. He was a Tufts graduate; was many years district attorney, and achieved national fame as the prosecuting attorney in the Lizzie E. Borden case; she was tried and acquitted of murdering her father and stepmother. Mr. Knowlton was attorney-general of the Commonwealth many years. Lemuel Le B. Holmes, was admitted to the bar in 1875. He was a native of Rochester, New York, studied law with Thomas M. Stetson, became city solicitor, then district attorney, and was finally appointed a judge of the Superior Court, a position he held at the time of his death several years ago. The list of all lawyers who have from time to time and who are still in practice is all too long to here insert, suffice to say they were well qualified men and had good clientage.

**The Medical Profession.**—Massachusetts has had a Medical Society since 1781. The State is divided into seventeen districts, and one of these includes Bristol county. This society was chartered April 3, 1839 under the title of the Southern District Medical Society. Its present name is Bristol South District Medical Society. The records are in no wise complete, but this much is known: The following physicians, resident in New Bedford were members of the Massachusetts Medical Society prior to the formation of the local society above named: Samuel Perry, 1803; Alexander Read, 1816; Paul Spooner, 1821; William C. Whitridge, 1822; Andrew Mackie, 1824; Julius S. Mayhew, 1830; Jeremiah Stone, 1831; Lyman Bartlett, 1833; William A. Gordon, 1835; Thomas P. Wells, 1836; William R. Wells, 1838.

William Logan Fisher, in speaking of early medical literature and records states: "The medical literature of New Bedford prior to the present century was mostly confined to Ebenezer Perry, the only physician of the place. About the year 1795 his charge for a visit was sixpence, and thus he kept all other physicians at a distance. An English lady who was under treatment at this time was so much surprised at the smallness of his charges that she requested that she might be furnished with the particulars of the bill, that she might take it to England. After this the doctor raised his prices to one shilling per visit. It is said this doctor was a good, plain, practical physician, and an honest man."

The earliest physician in Dartmouth was Dr. Benjamin Burg, who died September 18, 1748, aged forty years. Dr. Daniel Hathaway was also an early physician, beginning in Dartmouth soon after the death of pioneer Dr. Burg, and continuing until his death in 1772. Drs. Elisha Tobey, Samuel Perry and his son Samuel, were all very early in the medical practice. Other physicians who were favorites in the homes of New Bedford and surrounding country were inclusive of the following: Drs. William Cushing Whitridge, came to New Bedford in 1822, he practiced till death, dying in 1857, aged seventy-four years. Alexander Read, graduate of Dartmouth, class 1808, located here in 1811; he was a devoted Christian and defender of the Bible. Elijah Colby came to New Bedford in 1830, and

practiced until death in 1856; he was treating a patient an hour before his own death; was never known to speak a cross word in all his life. Julius Stewart Mayhew came here as a young school teacher and gave singing lessons, entered Harvard College Medical School; he came from a family of physicians there, having a doctor in every generation for hundreds of years before his birth. He was among the first to cast an Abolition vote in New Bedford; was a foe of all types of oppression. He was in truth a man of the "Old-School." Dr. Paul Spooner opened an office in New Bedford in 1807, and for half a century practiced successfully in maternity cases; he died in 1862, aged seventy-six years. Dr. Gordon was born in Newburyport, Massachusetts; graduated from Harvard Medical School, coming to New Bedford in 1839; he died here of heart disease in 1887; he was the president of the District Medical Society a number of terms. Dr. Charles Lamson Swasey, born in Maine, graduated from Bowdoin Medical College in 1838, and practiced his chosen profession until overtaken by death in 1860; he was well versed in history, and a great believer in the theory of evolution. Dr. William Howland Taylor, a native of New Bedford, born in 1853, graduated from Harvard Medical School and entered the Medical Department of the New York University, graduating in 1876. He took the Loomis prize with his essay on "Theory and Practice of Medicine." He was a member of the Bristol South District Medical Society, and was its secretary at one time.

Other physicians are mentioned at length in the biographical department of this work, hence need not be here treated. Suffice to state that with the passing years and decades, the medical science has made great strides forward, and today the physicians in and near New Bedford are fully abreast with the modern ideas of the healing art, as it was once popularly styled. In all that is good for the health of the community, New Bedford physicians have ever tried to do their best to aid those outside the profession to clean up and make a city sanitary in all possible respects.

---

## CHAPTER XII.

### THE POSTOFFICE AND CUSTOM HOUSE

New Bedford had its first postoffice established in 1794, with William Tobey as postmaster. The office was located in the old Tobey House, a two-story wooden building at the corner of Purchase and Union streets. Mails were received and sent out once a week by stages. Postage in those days was so expensive that only the most urgent demand called for a letter to be sent over the old post-road. In 1806, with the appointment of William Smith as postmaster, the office was moved to a building on Middle street, where the old custom house was also kept. The postoffice only occupied one very small room, and when the stage arrived the postmaster would call out the names of persons having letters, and if they were present they would make it known and receive their mail. Neither stamps nor envelopes were used then. Postage was paid, usually by the party who received the letter, but occasionally it was demanded in advance of mailing. The rate was ten



cents from Boston on letters; on a weekly newspaper it usually ran about \$1.50 per year. From New York the postage on a letter was eighteen cents to New Bedford. To Philadelphia it was twenty-five cents per letter. Few letters were sent by stage, but one friend would trust another who was going the route the letter was going, who would deliver it to the addressee. Often the traveler was overburdened with such free mail, but all was taken good-naturedly; merchants going for goods would kindly carry a pocket full of letters for his customers. This prevailed until as late as 1847, when postage rates were lessened. In 1826 the postoffice changed hands and Richard Williams was made postmaster, and it was during his administration that the penny-post was established. This commenced in 1832, and under its provisions the recipients of mail matter could have their mail delivered by paying an additional two cents. When the U. S. Custom House was finished in 1836, the postoffice was moved to that building. It remained there a half century. April 1, 1893, the new government building at the corner of Acushnet avenue and William street was completed. This building especially constructed for postoffice uses, was well furnished and its cost was \$100,000, exclusive of land. This only gave accommodations until the present postoffice was finished in September, 1915, at a cost of \$287,964.15. The following is believed to be a list of all postmasters regularly appointed at New Bedford:

William Tobey, 1794; Abraham Smith, 1806; Richard Williams, 1826; Simeon Bailey, 1840; Dr. Edward W. Greene, 1845; Edward W. Greene, Simeon Bailey (second time); Thomas Coggeshall, held postal offices here for fifty-three years, either deputy or postmaster; Edmund Anthony, appointed under Grant's administration; also Thomas Coggeshall again; then came A. H. W. Carpenter, eighth postmaster; John Fraser, ninth; Col. Cyrus Chapman, tenth postmaster, 1861; Edmund Anthony, 1876; the twelfth postmaster was Albert H. W. Carpenter, under Cleveland; Charles H. Gifford succeeded Carpenter, and then came Charles S. Ashley, under Cleveland's second term as President; the fifteenth postmaster was David L. Parker, from 1897 to 1902; he was succeeded by John Duff, he by Frank C. Barrows, he by George Louis Oliver, eighteenth postmaster of New Bedford. The present postmaster is Harold Winslow.

New Bedford had its free delivery system installed in 1863, but boxes were not placed on the streets until 1867. The Money Order system was established at New Bedford in 1864, the first order being made out in favor of Samuel Rodman for the amount of \$4.25.

The postoffice business in 1922 is thus epitomized: Total of business (estimated), 1922, \$320,000; number of sub-stations, 26; number of classified stations, 1; regular carriers, 62; substitute carriers, 22; regular clerks, 44; substitute clerks, 17.

**The Custom House.**—The United States Custom House at New Bedford is a stone structure with a portico pillared by stone, which was in conformity with the colonial style of architecture of the old town. It was erected in 1830 and has a spiral staircase of stone, making it one of the curiosities in way of architecture in this country. Only one other such staircase is found in this country, and that is at Newburyport, built about the same date.

The New Bedford Custom House was one of the first established in the United States, having been created in 1789. Colonel Edward Pope was the first collector; it was for him that Pope's Island was named. He



resided on Main street, at the corner of North Sixth. Daniel Ricketson recalls "this old fashioned mansion, stable, carriage-house, front yard and large garden in the rear, as one of the most attractive spots in the then village of New Bedford." Colonel Pope died at his home, June 10, 1818, aged seventy-eight years. He was collector of this port from 1789 and 1801, and was succeeded by Isaiah Weston from 1801 to 1814, and John Hawes from 1814 to 1823. Russell Freeman then served until 1829; he was an uncle to Colonel Fessenden, a collector of later years. In 1829 Lemuel Williams commenced an eight-year term as collector. Politics ran very high, and this office (as now) was a political "plum," and Freeman and Williams came to blows on the street. It was during Williams' term of office that the Custom House was built, the date being 1836, and it still stands a monument of good workmanship. Williams was followed by Robert S. Smith, whose accounts became tangled and after two years he was succeeded by William H. Allen, who served from 1841 to 1843; Allen was an ardent Whig, and received his appointment under President William Henry Harrison. In 1843, in the month of September, Rodney French walked into the Custom House with his commission signed by President Tyler. He was a Democrat and a Free-Soiler, and strongly an anti-slave expounder, later known as a "Black Republican." President Tyler evidently did not know this or he never would have appointed him. Three months later he found it out, and through his influence the Senate would not confirm the appointment. The office then went begging for a keeper for a time, but finally Lieutenant Josiah Sturgis appeared on the scene. He was commander in the U. S. revenue marine service, and he took the position for five years. The next collector was Joseph T. Adams, who resided in Washington. He received his appointment through Lieutenant Sturgis. When President Polk was elected he favored the annexation of Texas, and Adams became an ardent expounder of the cause of annexation, and on that question wrote many articles in local newspapers. He remained until 1849, and was succeeded by William T. Russell, who served four years.

So much for the personnel of the early Custom House collectors at New Bedford. A recent history of New Bedford gives the following as a complete list of all collectors at this port of entry: 1789-1801, Col. Edward Pope; 1801-1814, Isaiah Weston; 1814-1823, John Hawes; 1823-1829, Russell Freeman; 1829-1841, Lemuel Williams; 1841-1843, Robert S. Smith and William H. Allen; 1843-3 months, Rodney French; 1843-1849, Joseph T. Adams; 1849-1853, William T. Russell; 1853-1861, Col. C. B. H. Fessenden; 1861-1870, Lawrence Grinnell; 1870-1886, John A. P. Allen; 1886-1891, Weston Howland; 1891-1895, James Taylor; 1895-1900, Zephaniah W. Pease; 1900-1905, George F. Bartlett; 1905-1913, Rufus A. Soule. The last-named died in office. President Taft's last important official act was to consolidate the custom houses into districts. Thus New Bedford Custom House was lost as to individuality, by becoming a part of the Massachusetts District of Customs. In the days when protection was granted to seamen, as many as three thousand protection papers were granted in one year at this port. In recent years the receipts of this custom-house have been larger than ever before. The present deputy collector is Edward P. Haskell, who has charge of this port. The customs receipts in 1922 were \$49,107.88. Number of immigrants landed, 62.

## CHAPTER XIII.

## THE CITY GOVERNMENT

Other chapters have given the history of the incorporation of New Bedford, and it may be added that it has ever been a progressive place, full of business spirit and goodnatured rivalry. The city officers are elected annually, first Tuesday in December for the succeeding year. The officers-elect organize on the first Monday in January. Regular meetings in the city council chambers, Municipal building, second and fourth Thursdays of each month. Special meetings are called by the mayor. The present (1923) city officers are as follows: Mayor Walter H. B. Remington; Aldermen—Napoleon Ricard, Fielding H. Walsh, Oscar D. Kelleher, George A. Blake, George S. Taber, John Catterall; City Clerk, Rodolphus A. Swan.

The city has seven parks for public use; total area, 221.47 acres. These public parks are as follows: Brooklawn, 88.51 acres; Buttonwood, 94.46 acres; Hazelwood, 23.05 acres; Bridge, 1.08 acres; Grove, .93 acres; Ashley Park, 4.32 acres; Triangle, .16 acres; Water Front, 1.76 acres. Appraised valuation, \$822,425. The Park Commissioners have their room in No. 205 Municipal building; Board consists of five members appointed yearly, in April, by the mayor and confirmed by the council. The term is five years, beginning the first Monday in May in the year of appointment. As to the excellent sewer system of New Bedford, it may be said that in 1917 the records showed the complete cost of the sewer system had been \$1,233,943.93. The city owns the shore and all riparian rights south of Brock avenue, from Shore street to Crapo street, and from the Killburn Mills south to the government reservation. During recent years the municipal bath house was erected by the city at an expense of \$80,000.

The water system dates back in its history to March 8, 1860, when Frederick S. Allen introduced into the common council an order for the appointment of a committee to "consider the practicability of introducing a permanent supply of fresh water into the city, and to report some plan with the probable cost of doing so." Nothing further was accomplished until April 18, 1863, when an act for supplying the city of New Bedford with pure water was passed by the Massachusetts General Court. The first board of water commissioners was organized December 13, 1865. William W. Crapo was chairman; other members were Warren Ladd, David B. Kempton and James B. Congdon. When the first appropriation was made for \$100,000, the great work was fairly commenced. During the closing weeks of 1869, water first flowed from the dam across the valley of the Acushnet, seven miles north of the city, through the main pipes to the city. Thus the shops and stores and homes of the enterprising city were given a bountiful supply of pure water, full of health-giving qualities. Since then, many extensions have been made and new additional sources of obtaining the water needed have been made a part of the water-works plant of today. About six years ago more water was derived from the dam, lake and reservoir system. When fully completed as designed, the municipally owned water plant will encircle the city with a modern pumping station at Quittacus Lake where the purest of soft water is found. This water-shed is the most extensive of any in Massachusetts. The water-rate





OLD PEARL STREET DEPOT  
(Opened to the Public, July 1, 1840; Abandoned in 1886, and Demolished Soon After)





is low, ten cents per thousand gallons for industrial purposes, and fifteen cents for metered domestic use. The water board consists of five members, with mayor and president of the common council, *ex officio*.

The Fire Department dates back in its history to 1772—four years before the Revolution—when a fire engine was built in London, England, which was bought by Joseph Rotch, one of the original settlers of New Bedford, and this was the first ever brought to the village. It was named "Independence No. 1," and was housed on the north side of William street. The New Bedford Safe Deposit and Trust Company have their building on the exact spot at this time. A fire department was regularly organized in 1834 under legislative act, and July 4, 1835, the firemen first appeared in uniform and paraded the village highways. In September, 1859, the place was visited by a destructive fire, and then the first steam fire engine was ordered, "Onward No. 1," built at Manchester, New Hampshire. "Progress" was ordered in 1860; "Excelsior" in 1864; "Cornelius Howland" in 1867; new fire engines were purchased in 1880 and a complete uniformed fire company force was put in operation. The Frederick Macy Steam Fire Engine Company, No. 6, was put in commission November 1, 1882. The Firemen's Mutual Aid Society was organized in 1875, its object being to assist its members who might receive injuries while in service. Other similar societies have existed up to the present time in New Bedford. The oldest part of the Fire Department, the Protecting Society, was founded in 1830, by the old Vigilance Committee, and was active to 1872-3, when it was rendered more useful by being furnished with tarpaulins and rubber blankets. The society was reorganized in 1875, and the number of members limited to fifty.

---

## CHAPTER XIV.

### NEWSPAPERS

The Medley, a weekly newspaper, was established at New Bedford in 1792; it was also known as New Bedford Marine Journal. It was edited and printed by John Spooner at his office, "near Rotch's Wharf." But a very few New England towns had a newspaper as early as New Bedford. This paper was published seven years by John Spooner, who sold to Abraham Shearman, Jr., who in 1798 had founded the Columbia Courier, the first number appearing December 1. Next to appear was the New Bedford Mercury, owned and edited by Benjamin Lindsey. This being the third paper in point of age in the Commonwealth, a rather extended notice is here given of it.

It was established by Benjamin Lindsey; the first issues were small sheets of sixteen columns, printed "on good paper and in fair type," the subscription price two dollars, exclusive of postage, and payable half-yearly in advance. In his announcement to the public the editor says: "It is our wish and intention to publish a useful and, as far as possible, an entertaining journal embracing all those objects which properly fall within the scope, etc. . . . In politics we shall adopt the truly republican principles of Washington's Farewell Address, convinced that all Americans are

alike interested in their support. Thus doing, we shall nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."

The first issue contained "very late news" for those ante-clippership, ante-steam-power and ante-telegraph times—a proclamation by Thomas Jefferson and various local advertisements by Abraham Russell, Peter Barney & Son, and Russell, Thornton & Company. In the second number is an advertisement of a new line of stages between New Bedford and Boston, announcing that the stage will start from "Crocker's tavern in New Bedford at sunrise on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and arrive at Boston at three o'clock p. m."

Mr. Lindsey, the founder of this paper, was a practical printer, having learned his trade in Boston. He was a native of Marblehead, Massachusetts, and died in New Bedford, November 10, 1831, in his fifty-fourth year. He conducted his paper alone until 1826, when his son, Benjamin Lindsey, Jr., was associated with him. In 1831 they started the Daily Mercury, first in New Bedford. Soon thereafter the son conducted it alone until 1861, when having been appointed as U. S. Consul to Brazil, he sold his paper plant to C. B. H. Fessenden and William G. Baker. Fessenden & Baker took charge of the Mercury on the eve of the Civil War, the exact date being July 15, 1861. It was this paper that at an early time advocated freeing the slaves, saying "We must fight them or free them." In the darkest days of the rebellion its leading articles were cheery and hopeful, never doubting that finally the North would win in the terrible strife. It was also persistent in its effort to supplement the loss to the city from inevitable decline of the whale fishery, by the establishment of manufacturing industries.

May 1, 1876 the Mercury passed to the ownership of Stephen W. Booth, Warren E. Chase and William L. Sayer, who until July 1, 1894, under the style of The Mercury Publishing Company, conducted it. Both of the last named had been associated with the paper as employes many years. Mr. Sayer continued as editor until 1894. At that date the paper passed to the ownership of George S. Fox, William L. Sayer and Benjamin H. Anthony. It was then that Zephaniah W. Pease, an old employee, became editor and Arthur G. Luce, business manager. They still retain their positions. The property, however, was incorporated as the Mercury Publishing Company. During the one hundred and seventeen years of existence of the Mercury, not less than thirty-one newspapers have been established in New Bedford, but all have "gone to the wall" save three. The Evening Standard celebrated its fiftieth birthday a few years ago. Seven papers besides the Mercury were started during the last half century, but all fell by the wayside and now sleep the dreamless sleep that knows no waking. One of these papers changed its name not less than six times, while its ownership changed fully as frequently. The "History of New Bedford," published a few years since, has this on the recent publications of that city:

The Evening Standard and the Republican Standard, a weekly, were founded by Edmund Anthony in February, 1850. Mr. Anthony was then a veteran journalist, having established several newspapers in Taunton, Massachusetts, including the Daily Gazette and for several years publishing The Bristol County Democrat. The Standard is one of the successful papers of the city, and the Standard plant is a thoroughly



modern one, both in mechanical equipment and its facilities of gathering in news. Upon the death of Edmund Anthony, the founder, his sons, Edmund and Benjamin, succeeded him and January 1, 1891, incorporated under the name of E. Anthony & Sons. The Standard now appears every evening and Sundays. It is the oldest evening paper in the city and the only one having any claim to age. The New Bedford Times was established in 1902, and continues as an evening and Sunday paper.

---

## CHAPTER XV.

### NEW BEDFORD CHURCHES

New Bedford has always been known as a place where various religious denominations had churches, and where the spirit of religion predominates to a goodly degree.

**Congregational.**—The First Congregational Society was established in 1708, when Samuel Hunt came to the town of Dartmouth, regularly appointed June 8, 1708, by an order of the General Court, to establish a Congregational church. He was a graduate of Harvard College, and through him came the foundation of Congregationalism in this part of Massachusetts. In 1709 a meeting house was provided; it stood on the old burying ground at the head of Acushnet river. This grave-yard was in use as early as 1711, the date of the earliest marked tombstone. From this church sprang the First Congregational Society in New Bedford (Unitarian), Union street, corner of Eighth, of which Rev. William G. Geoghegan is pastor. Many ministers of note have served as pastor here. Another Congregational church is located on Acushnet avenue, Lund's corner; Rev. H. E. Oxnard, pastor.

The North Congregational Church was formed by a council in October, 1807, but soon a division was had on account of lack of harmony in church policy. The result was the formation of a Trinitarian and also a Unitarian church. Thirteen of the original nineteen members withdrew, and the minority remained, and in 1812 adopted a covenant and called Rev. David Batchelder. The first church, corner of Purchase and Elm streets, was dedicated June, 1813, a Sunday school was formed in 1819, and in 1826 the church building was enlarged. In 1827 the North Church was incorporated. The present fine edifice of this society adorns the corner of Purchase and Elm streets, and has for many years.

The Trinitarian church was organized November 15, 1831. Fifty-nine members signed the original membership roll; all but one of these were formerly of the old North church. A pastor was secured in 1832 in the person of Rev. James Austin Roberts. The society was incorporated on January 2, 1832. A new building was provided and dedicated May 17, 1832. Fire destroyed a church edifice, but they have for years had a handsome stone building on Purchase street. Rev. Matthew C. Julian, who died in 1914, had been the faithful pastor over forty years. He was succeeded by Rev. Fletcher Douglas Parker. The present pastor is Rev. Frederic H. von der Sump.

Organized Methodism in New Bedford dates from 1817, when the first class was formed, its sixteen members being led by Rev. Benjamin R.

Holt, of Sandwich. A regular pastor was secured in July, 1820, Rev. Jesse Filmore. This was the origin of County Street Methodist Episcopal Church. A Sunday school was formed in 1824. A church building was dedicated May, 1859, at Elm and County streets.

Fourth Street Church was formed by the withdrawal of members from the original church of this denomination in New Bedford. They dedicated their neat chapel in 1832, Rev. Asa Kent serving as pastor for the seceders. A separation was effected in 1843, and the Fourth street church became a separate organization. This church is now styled the Second Methodist Episcopal Church of New Bedford.

- Pleasant Street Church is the second church society to spring from County Street Methodist Episcopal Church, known as Elm street. In 1843 a start was made to build what was known as the Tree Meeting House, from the fact of a large sycamore tree stood directly in front and overshadowed the modest little chapel. This building was dedicated about 1843, and was supplied by the presiding elder. Separation was agreed upon in 1844, and the following May a society was formed known as the Pleasant Street Methodist Episcopal Church.

Allen Street Church was formed in 1851, by members going with it from the Fourth Street Church, Rev. Moses Chase heading the movement, as he believed there was need of a church in the other end of the growing city. The first church was dedicated January 22, 1852, at the corner of County and Allen streets.

Other churches of this denomination include the Howard, Wesley, Methodist Episcopal Mission, First Portuguese Methodist Episcopal, Bethel African, Methodist Episcopal, Zion African Methodist Episcopal church, and two Primitive Methodist churches complete the long list of churches of the Methodist faith.

**Baptist Churches.**—The First Baptist church had its beginning June 22, 1813, when persons met at the home of Philip Cannon, Jr., in New Bedford to organize; articles of faith were formed and signed by eighteen persons under the head of the First Baptist Church of New Bedford. The society was incorporated in 1828 and a church was dedicated in 1829, at the present site, William and Sixth streets.

North Baptist Church was started by thirty members of the First Baptist Church, who had been officially dismissed for the purpose, and voted to constitute themselves the North Baptist Church of New Bedford. This church is located at the corner of Merrimac and County streets. Other churches of the Baptist faith are: Elm Baptist, French Baptist, Immanuel Baptist, Gortuguese Baptist Mission, South Baptist, and Union Baptist.

**Miscellaneous.**—The first record extant of the denomination of Friends is found in an agreement and list of subscribers to the erection of a meeting-house at Apponagnsett, in 1698. For nearly a hundred years the Dartmouth Monthly Meeting was supreme in the section, New Bedford Meeting being founded in December, 1792. Their meeting-house is on Spring street.

Grace Protestant Episcopal Church was founded in 1833, and two years later a church edifice was erected by Grace Church. The corner-stone of the present building was laid September 11, 1880, by that eminent divine, Rev. Phillips Brooks. In its tower rang out the first chime of bells ever heard in New Bedford.



St. James Protestant Church was formed by members of Grace church in 1878. The first services were held in a shed on Purchase street, near the Wamsutta mills. Cotton cloth including calico covered the rough, unsightly spots of the rude shed. A parlor organ was borrowed for the occasion. Easter Day, April 21, 1878, the church was legally organized as St. James Protestant Episcopal Church. This church has its edifice at the corner of County and Linden streets.

St. Martin's Episcopal Church is the outgrowth of a Sunday school which developed into Olivet Mission, and was at first to accommodate the English people at the South End. A stone church was started in 1891 and completed the following year on County and River streets. St. Andrew's Protestant Episcopal Church is situated on Bellville road, near Acushnet street.

The First Presbyterian Church held its first services at New Bedford in October, 1886, and the legal organization was had in April, 1887. Rev. William Howell Buchanan was installed pastor, May 10, 1887.

North Christian Church, corner of Purchase and Middle streets, recently demolished, was built in 1833. The original founders were from the Baptist church at Dartmouth, and were constituted a Christian church January 25, 1807. Elder Benjamin Taylor was the first minister. He commenced his work there in 1812.

Middle Street Christian Church was formed by seceding members from North Christian Church in 1828, nine members withdrawing. In 1834 they moved to the new church in Middle street, vacated by the North Christian congregation when they moved to their new church, corner Purchase and Middle street. The building is now occupied by the African Methodist Episcopal church. South Street Christian Church is an outgrowth of a meeting held in September, 1852. Spruce Street Christian Church was the result of meetings held in April, 1859, when a Mission Sunday school was started with fifteen scholars. In 1867 a chapel was built and presented to the society, which was incorporated as the Spruce Street Mission Society. In 1868 a pastor was settled there and it became an organized body.

In the spring of 1840, William Miller, of New York, delivered several lectures in New Bedford on the "Second Coming of Christ," fixing the date of his coming between March, 1843, and March, 1844. These lectures were held in the North Christian Church, and found supporters among other churches, about twenty withdrawing from their former connections and formed a congregation which was known as the Advent Christian Church; in 1879 a church building was erected on Foster street. The Second Advent Church is located on Sycamore street, corner of Emerson street. The Seventh Day Adventist Church is at the corner of Willow and Bullock streets.

The First Church of Christ (Scientist) a branch of the Mother church, the first Church of Christ (Scientist) Boston, Massachusetts, was the outgrowth of the labors of James E. Brierly C. S. D. (teacher). Its work was begun in January, 1887, and has grown into a permanent organization. A church building and reading room are maintained at this time.

The first Universalist minister to come to New Bedford for regular preaching services was Rev. Alanson St. Claire, who began his work in 1833, and a year later a society was formed. A house of worship was



erected at Fifth and School street, which was sold in 1848 for an indebtedness against the property. The church was reorganized in 1851 by Rev. Van Campen. Other ministers served, and in 1855 a church building was dedicated on William street, near Eighth.

**Roman Catholic Churches.**—The first house of worship built for this denomination in this city was in 1820, on Allen street, Bishop Cheverus, of Boston, dedicating it in 1821. This building served its purpose thirty years until 1849, when the Catholics bought the old Universalist church on Fifth and School streets. The parish of St. Mary was then settled there. In 1866 the society renamed the church after the patron saint of the pastor, St. Lawrence the Martyr. The church edifice was finished and dedicated in 1870.

On January 8, 1888, Rev. Father Smyth, pastor of St. Lawrence Church, announced that a new parish would be formed of those Catholics living south of Madison and Hawthorne streets. First mass was celebrated in the new parish January 15, 1888. A tract of two acres, corner of County and Rockland streets, was soon purchased and a granite church edifice finished, first used May 15, 1892, and named St. James Church.

St. Lawrence Church had general jurisdiction over all New Bedford and vicinity for several years, but the rapid growth of various foreign people caused other churches to be made independent of the Mother church. The Portuguese and French population demanded communion of their own, hence priests of their nativity had to be provided in the city. Prior to 1869 there were more than eight hundred Portuguese Catholics in New Bedford. Their church is known as St. John the Baptist. A building was dedicated by these people June 27, 1875. It is still a prosperous congregation.

The Church of the Sacred Heart was ministered to by French priests following 1870, the parish being largely French Catholic. In August, 1876, the corner-stone of a new church at the corner of Ashland and Robeson streets was laid, and the building dedicated in 1877. Another French parish set off in 1887, comprising at first a hundred families, is known as St. Hyacinthe Church. Other Roman Catholic churches of the city are: Church of Immaculate Conception; Holy Rosary, Mt. Carmel, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, St. Anne's, St. Anthony, St. Boniface, St. Hedwig's, St. Joseph's, St. Killians, Church of the Holy Name, Our Lady of the Assumption.

Other organizations include these: Unity Home, Cannonville Chapel, Church of God, Dennison Memorial Building, Clifford Union Chapel, First Spiritual Harmony Church, Jewish Synagogue, Home Gospel Mission, New Church Society, Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene, Free Chapel Association, Salvation Army Barracks, Salvation Army Industrial Home, Seamen's Bethel, and Shawmut Church.

Organized mission work began here as early as 1826, by the Congregational church. The Seamen's Bethel is a child of the New Bedford Port Society, and both were organized with the welfare of mariners as their main purpose. A chapel was erected in 1831, costing \$5,000. Rev. Enoch Mudge, a devoted minister was the first regular chaplain. In 1866 the building was burned and a new one erected in 1867. Since the business of

this port of entry has declined and not so many seamen are found here, the society turns its attention to other local needs.

Besides these many religious and charitable institutions in New Bedford, may be mentioned the Union of Good Works, St. Luke's Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital, the Association of the Relief of Aged Women, New Bedford Home for the Aged, Young Men's Christian Association, a very strong society of young and middle-aged men; and the Young Women's Christian Association, all doing their share of good in the city today.

---

## CHAPTER XVI.

### THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Without going into the detail of the early school history in New Bedford, certain facts of which have already been touched upon, it will be the aim of this article to give in brief something concerning the educational institutions of the last decade and of the present time. The name and location of the many public school buildings here follow:

High School buildings—High School, County street, head of Williams street.

Grammar—Parker street, near County street. Middle Street School, Summer street, between Elm and Middle streets. The Allen F. Wood School, corner of Pleasant and Russell streets. Robert C. Ingraham School, Rivet street. James B. Congdon School, corner Hemlock and Thompson streets.

Mixed Schools—Harrington Memorial, corner Court and Tremont streets. Abraham Lincoln School, Bowditch street. Betsey B. Winslow, corner Allen and Brownell streets. John Clifford School, Coggeshall street. Thomas Donaghy School, South street. William H. Taylor School, Brock avenue. Thomas R. Rodman School, Mill street. Jireh Swift School, Acushnet avenue. Katharine School, Katharine street, between Orchard and Bonney streets.

Primary Schools—Phillips avenue; Cedar Grove; Clark Street School; Merrimac Street School; Mary B. White School; Horatio A. Kempton School; Ann Howland School; Thomas A. Greene School; Acushnet School; Thompson School; Isaac W. Benjamin School; Dartmouth Street School; George H. Dunbar School.

Suburban Schools—Plainville, Rockdale, Open Air School. Also nearly a dozen portable schools.

Six years ago there was spent for schools in New Bedford (in 1917) \$558,000. This applies to the common school system, and then there were the parochial schools, the Swain Free School of Design, Friends' Academy, New Bedford Textile School, and the New Bedford Industrial School.

The foregoing facts constitute the framework around which has been built up a wonderfully strong system of public instruction. The following figures were gleaned from the records of the schools in 1916, seven years ago: Number of high schools, 1; Grammar schools, 6; Mixed schools, 9; Primary schools, 14; Suburban schools, 2; Fresh Air Schools, 2; Conserva-



tion of eyesight school, 1; cooking schools, 3; Manual Training schools, 4. Total number of schools, forty-two. The number of permanent school buildings at the last named date was 34; number of portable schools, 20; total number school buildings in New Bedford, 54. Whole number of teachers employed in 1917, was 538. The various departments had teachers as follows: High school, 47, and one clerk; Elementary schools, 359; Special teachers and assistants, 28; School nurses, 38; Evening High School, 14; Evening Elementary schools, 86. There is now an average daily attendance in the various schools of the city about 15,500.

The Friends' Academy, chartered in 1812, was given a building by William Rotch; this served until 1860, when the building was removed. A new building was erected on Morgan street. The school has educated in part or entirely many a man and woman who have gone forth into the busy world of affairs, properly educated for life's duties.

On the wave-washed island of Nantucket, William W. Swain was born in 1793, married in 1818, Lydia Russell, by whom two sons were born; one died very young and the other, Robert, born in 1823, died in Virginia in 1884, an invalid from the age of nine years. Yet he graduated from Harvard and Phillips Exeter Academy. After his death, the parents sought to do the best they could with the property they possessed, so they finally accomplished the founding of the Swain Free School of Design. Mr. Swain died in 1858, and his good companion in 1878, aged eighty-five years. He left property for the founding of a school which in his will is thus described: "My hope is that the provision herein made will be sufficient for establishing and supporting a school of high character, where the pupils may receive a thorough education upon the most liberal and enlightened principles free from any charge of tuition. My intention is the school shall never be in any form or degree exclusive, either religiously or politically, but open for the admission of all whose good character and condition entitle them to share in its benefits, and of this the trustees are to be sole judges." This school was incorporated March 18, 1891; the recent head of the faculty of this unique school is Harry A. Neyland.

The New Bedford Textile School by legislative enactment was incorporated and commenced operations in 1899, the first class graduating in 1900. At first the regular course was one year, but later it was lengthened and now a three-year course is required in order to obtain a diploma. Since this school started there have been more than ten thousand students in courses of various lengths. Twenty-nine hundred of these students graduated and received certificates.

The city has the advantage of other schools, including the Herrick Institute of Civil Service; Benton's Business School; Kinyon's Commercial School; the Caswell School of Shorthand; Vocational School of New Bedford, a trade school supported by the city, and absolutely free; the Commonwealth aids in the maintenance of this school. This institution was started in 1908 and first opened in the old George L. Brownell carriage works plant. Special evening classes are taught. Here are taught machine power, electrical, paper-hanging, and plumbing departments. Also millinery, cooking, home-making, etc. Fine, modern machinery aids the beginner in all that he attempts to master. Six years ago this school had in attendance 757 pupils, full or half-time students. The total cost of



running this school is about \$60,000. It is paid by the State and by non-resident pupils, except about \$30,000 which comes out of the city. From this institution are sent out well educated mechanics in carpentry, electricity, power departments, wood carving and that which pertains to telephones and telegraphic work, etc. The girls are here taught cooking, sewing, millinery, and the home-care of the sick. Besides these general secular schools are the numerous parochial schools connected with the Catholic churches of the city.

**Free Public Library.**—In brief, the history of this library is as follows: Instituted August 16, 1852; established March 3, 1853; 170,000 volumes; open from 9 a. m. to 9 p. m.; new Library building occupied December 10, 1910; Branch reading rooms; Branch Library, Weld street; Ward room, Blackmer and South Water streets; over police station, corner Kempton and Cedar streets.

The act of the Massachusetts Legislature passed May 24, 1851, was the authority for starting this library. New Bedford already had its Library Society and its prosperous Social Library, but May 27, 1852, a large petition headed by James B. Congdon was presented the city council, asking that an act be passed authorizing the Free Public Library. The request was granted, \$1,500 appropriated, and the date of the appropriation bill passed July 20, 1852, fixes the date of the present Library's real founding. In March, 1853, the Library was thrown open to the reading public as a free library. It was one year later than this that Boston had her first free library thrown open to the public.

Having obtained a "library," the next thing was to get a suitable building for the books on hand. August 28, 1856, the corner-stone of the first library building was laid, and it was the first public library which was to be "Free to all the People," ever established in America. Boston came in a year later. In 1888 this library had outgrown its usefulness and larger quarters were needed. A large addition to the old building was made, and that served until the fire of 1901 destroyed much of the old City Hall, after which public sentiment seemed to demand that the ruins be rebuilt and converted into a Library building. After a good-bye meeting in the old building, and after the new had risen from the ashes of the old City Hall, the new library was dedicated, December 3, 1910, with impressive ceremony. An historical address was made by Librarian George H. Tripp, in which he spoke of his predecessor, Robert C. Ingraham, having been the first librarian and that he served almost fifty years. Many donations and endowments have been the good fortune of this library, including that large bequest of \$250,000 by Mrs. Sarah E. Potter, the interest of which goes annually toward the purchase of books.

---

## CHAPTER XVII.

### LODGES AND FRATERNAL SOCIETIES

The most ancient of all secret societies or lodges in the world is supposed to be the Masonic Order. This was first represented in New Bedford, by Star of the East Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, chartered December 10, 1823, with Timothy I. Dyre the first Worshipful Master.

Eureka Lodge was chartered May 8, 1857, Timothy Ingraham its first master. Both of these Masonic lodges are still in a prosperous condition.

Capitular Masonry is represented by Adoniram Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, chartered October 4, 1816, at Attleboro, Massachusetts; was moved to Taunton, and the first convocation held July 5, 1825, and on November 23, 1845, New Bedford became its permanent home.

New Bedford Council, Royal and Select Masons, and Sutton Commandery, Knights Templar, chartered May 4, 1864, John B. Baylies. This commandery was named in honor of William Sutton, sir knight of Salem, Massachusetts, who presented his namesake with a beautiful templar banner.

The Order of Eastern Star, the Women's auxiliary to Masonry, was first represented in New Bedford by Chapter No. 49, November 20, 1895, and later by Dartmouth Chapter No. 106, constituted April 24, 1907.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows is represented by Acushnet Lodge, No. 41, instituted April 11, 1844, with William H. Taylor as noble grand; and by Vesta Lodge, No. 166, instituted February 23, 1874, Charles B. Hillman, noble grand. Anawan Encampment, No. 8, was instituted May 23, 1845, and Canton New Bedford, No. 43, Patriarchs Militant, April 7, 1886. Other degrees of Odd Fellowship are here represented, including the Daughters of Rebekah, who have two lodges, Stella, No. 46, instituted April 1, 1885; and Usher, No. 114.

New Bedford being a live American manufacturing center, naturally has numerous Unions and labor organizations, admitting all sorts of tradesmen, and every nationality under the shining sun seems to be well represented in labor and mutual insurance orders, most of which are prosperous at this time. Then there are clubs galore—men's and women's, in and out of the city.

Of the military orders, one finds the Grand Army of the Republic; William Logan Rodman Post No. 1, organized October 4, 1886; R. A. Pierce Post, No. 190, organized May 28, 1888. The half century since the Civil War has depleted the ranks of the boys who wore the blue from '61 to '65. At one time the two posts in New Bedford mustered about seven hundred Civil War veterans belonging to the Grand Army of the Republic, but today there are less than two hundred left in the two posts. One of the posts lost 216 men by death. A recent history of New Bedford gives the subjoined on the Grand Army Posts of the city:

The "boys in blue" and "the boys in khaki" are words very true, when we use them with reference to those who have fought in their country's wars. It is really true that for the most part it is boys who fight in their country's battles. This is strikingly illustrated by the men who went out with the Third Massachusetts Infantry. The average age of the men in the regiment was only nineteen years, and at its head was Colonel Silas P. Richmond, only thirty years of age. It was this regiment that included a New Bedford drummer-boy who went out in 1862 at the age of thirteen years, and that boy is now Charles G. Allen, of this city, a member of Post No. 190, the youngest veteran in the post, the youngest in Massachusetts, and possibly the youngest veteran now living in New England. Mr. Allen is now (1917) sixty-eight years old, and he can drum today almost as well as he could in 1862. Ever since the days of the Civil War, Mr. Allen has been well known for his ability with the drum, and on many occasions the rat-tat-tat of his drum has been the music for the marching feet of the members of the post, as they have made their way through New Bedford streets. For years after the Civil War, he played in band organizations upon his



drum in this city, but gave this up some time ago. Before the war, when Mr. Allen was a "little shaver," he tapped on the cellar door with chair legs. His inclination towards drumming resulted in his receiving instructions from Israel Smith, the old band leader. Mr. Allen, as the youngest veteran of Post 190, has had a very close competitor for the honor of being the youngest veteran living here, in Nahum F. Nickelson, the youngest veteran of Post No. 1. Mr. Nickelson, now Junior Vice-commander of Post 1, went out as a drummer-boy at the age of sixteen years, and he is now sixty-nine years of age.

The two Posts also run a close race for the honor of having the oldest living veteran. Post 1 takes this honor through having as a member, Henry J. Purrington, the oldest man in Mattapoisett, now ninety-two years of age. Mr. Purrington is often an attendant at post meetings. The oldest member of Post No. 190 is Edwin J. McEmons, who is ninety-one years of age. He is able to be about, but not to be at post meetings.

Thomas W. Cook, past commander of Post No. 1, had the honor of having served as post commander longer than any other man in Massachusetts and possibly the longest of any post commander in New England. He was commander twenty-one years. Major Cushman, of the Forty-seventh Massachusetts Infantry, who founded Post 1, on October 4, 1866, was also the first department commander of Massachusetts in 1866-67.

The man who enjoys the distinction of having served the longest in any one office in the post (No. 190) was Adjutant George P. Macomber, who first served in this office in 1897, under Commander Henry W. Mason.

During the late World War both Grand Army Posts here showed a willingness to do whatever their strength and age would permit, and so expressing themselves as members and as a body to the President, Governor, and Mayor.

The two New Bedford Posts bear names of distinguished New Bedford men who fell for the flag of their country. Colonel William Logan Rodman, for whom Post No. 1 was named, was killed at Port Hudson, when he exposed himself above the parapet. Richard A. Peirce, for whom Post No. 190 was named, went from New Bedford to Fortress Monroe with three months men, and he was afterward designated by Governor Andrew to superintend the transportation of Massachusetts troops to the front. He became a major-general in the service. The post treasures among its mementoes of the war the equipment of General Peirce. Another memento which Post No. 190 prides itself upon is the possession of a drum captured from the British at Bunker Hill by an ancestor of the late Israel Smith, who, when he became a member of the post, presented the drum to the same.

Men who held high rank in the Union army have been members of one or the other of these posts at New Bedford. The late Philip H. King, of Post 190, stood guard at the door of the McLean house at Appomattox when the terms of surrender were arranged by Grant and Lee. Henry W. Mason was major of the Ninth New York Cavalry, among the first Union troops to be engaged at Gettysburg. Mr. Mason and the late Nicholas E. Howland were present at Ford's Theatre on the night Lincoln was assassinated. The late William P. Randall was on board the "Cumberland" when she was sunk by the "Merrimac." He fired the last shot from the sinking ship. Joseph M. Simms was a captain in the navy. William W. Barry was paymaster in the navy, Dr. George W. Winslow was a



surgeon in the navy, and was later retired as a rear-admiral. Samuel C. Hart became colonel of the Twenty-third Massachusetts Regiment. John A. P. Allen was colonel of a Massachusetts artillery regiment, James F. Chipman was a major. James W. Hervey was captain of Company A, Third Massachusetts Cavalry. Thomas R. Rodman was captain of Company H, Thirty-eighth Massachusetts Regiment. Joseph Austin was a captain; Charles F. Shaw was a major; Rev. Isaac H. Coe was a chaplain; William G. Davis was a lieutenant; Thomas J. Gifford and Frederick S. Gifford were first lieutenants.

Post No. 1 had among its members the late Colonel Silas P. Richmond, who went out at the head of the Third Massachusetts Infantry. Major Austin S. Cushman, of the Forty-seventh Infantry. James Barton was a lieutenant-colonel. Thomas W. Cook was first lieutenant in Massachusetts Artillery. Patrick Cannavan was first lieutenant in Company B, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry. Jonathan E. Cowan was captain of an unattached troop of Massachusetts cavalry. Albert Braley was a second lieutenant; William A. Allen was first lieutenant; James L. Wilber was first lieutenant of Company E, Third Massachusetts Heavy Artillery. Thomas H. Nolan, of Fairhaven, was first lieutenant in various branches of the cavalry service.

The history of Grand Army of the Republic posts at New Bedford is not complete without reference to the now defunct Robert Gould Shaw Post, No. 146, which included the colored veterans of the Civil War. They maintained their organization as long as there were enough veterans alive to keep the charter, and now the few who are left are in the other posts.

The Woman's Relief Corps is represented by William Logan Rodman Post 53, auxiliary to Post No. 1, instituted September 11, 1875, and R. A. Peirce Corps No. 95, auxiliary to Post No. 190, instituted January 13, 1891. There are two camps of Sons of Veterans—John A. Hawes Camp, No. 35, and John H. Clifford Camp. There is also a Ladies' Auxiliary to the John A. Hawes Camp.

---

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### FAMOUS MEN, VISITORS AND RESIDENTS

Kings, Presidents, ex-Presidents, Statesmen and Soldiers, have all been welcome guests in New Bedford. President John Quincy Adams visited the place in 1835, and also as ex-President he was the guest in 1843. Abraham Lincoln came here in 1848 to talk to a Whig political meeting, but unfortunately no notes were preserved of what he said, save what have been carried in the memory of some who were still living a few years ago, who heard him when they were youths.

General Ulysses S. Grant, when President, spent a few hours in the city in 1874, and his Majesty Kalakaua, King of the Hawaiian Islands, and his staff, visited the city the same year. When President Grant visited New Bedford in 1874, he came from Martha's Vineyard on a steamer. He had visited the camp grounds at Hyannis and Oak Bluffs and also at Nantucket. He went from New York to Newport by steamer, and there Mayor

Richmond and several members of the reception committee, joined the party to make arrangements for his visit to this city.

One of the earliest ovations given visiting guests in New Bedford was in March, 1813, just at the time of the War of 1812-14. A public dinner was tendered Lieutenant George Parker in honor of his gallant conduct in the action wherein the frigate "Java" (British) surrendered to the "Constitution" (American) off the coast of Brazil, December 29, 1812. The local paper, the "Mercury" of March 12, 1813, said:

Between the hours of two and three o'clock p. m. a large and respectable concourse of citizens, attended by an excellent band of music, and escorted by a part of Captain Stall's artillery company, proceeded from Nelson's Hotel in Main street to the bridge, where they met Lieutenant Parker, accompanied by Lieutenant King. On coming off the bridge, Lieutenant Parker was greeted with repeated cheers and escorted to the hall of the hotel, where an excellent repast was furnished by Mr. Nelson. The hall was decorated with trophies and devices emblematic of the occasion. The party was very numerous, and hilarity and propriety marked their proceedings.

Among the toasts were "Our Naval Heroes," "Our Gallant Tars," "A Navy to Protect Commerce and Commerce to Protect a Navy," "Our Constitution—may it be as well managed on the land as it has been on the water," "A speedy Peace With England," "Russia rendered truly great by her successful opposition to the destroyer of history."

After Lieutenant Parker retired, this toast was given: "Lieutenant George Parker and his brave associates in arms; may our country reward their services with something more substantial than Praise."

"Hon. A. Lincoln," was the caption of hand-bills and an item in the Mercury in New Bedford during the Whig campaign in 1848, when Zachary Taylor was candidate for President. It was in September, and Mr. Lincoln was thirty-nine years of age, a member of Congress from Illinois, and the rally at which he spoke was in old Liberty Hall. The "Mercury" had as part of its report on the meeting the following:

Mr. Page, chairman of the executive committee, then introduced the Hon. Abraham Lincoln, member of Congress from Illinois, who had kindly yielded to the solicitations of the committee to come from Worcester to address our citizens. Mr. Lincoln enchaind the attention of a delighted audience for nearly two hours. This speech covered the whole ground of the National election; and was marked by great originality, clear, conclusive, convincing reasoning, and enlivened by frequent flashes of genuine, racy, western wit. We have rarely seen a more attentive or interested audience. In fact, he took the house right between wind and water, and made a most admirable speech, which cannot fail to make a lasting impression on his hearers, and to gain friends for that honest old man, and tried patriot, as well as soldier, Zachary Taylor.

The committee deserves and will receive the thanks of the Whigs of New Bedford for securing the services of Mr. Lincoln. After Mr. Lincoln had finished his address, the audience gave him three hearty cheers, and repeated with rousing cheers for Taylor and Fillmore.

These might seem commonplace paragraphs, were it not for the fact that they are written in memory of the great Emancipator who "now belongs to the Ages."

John Quincy Adams visited New Bedford on different occasions, one being in September, 1843, and it was announced that he "arrived by the railroad." He did not come to make a political speech, but did make quite a telling oration before he left. He had become nettled at what leading men in Europe had been saying about this Republic being a failure, and



among his strong paragraphs the following which he closed with, is worth here repeating.

I was here eight years ago and then this town of yours had not half the population that it now has—not half the wealth that has been drawn from the depths of the ocean. I say that the experiment of a Republican government has not failed. Let the European men of learning who have concluded that the experiment of a Republican government in this country is a failure, let them show the spot on the face of this earth which has FAILED SO SUCCESSFULLY. I have witnessed it heretofore—I now witness it.

**Authors.**—From a list of local writers of both prose and poems, compiled several years ago by George H. Tripp, librarian at New Bedford, the following has been gleaned:

The principal literary men of the first century in New Bedford, were within the ministry—the clergy seeming to think that their profession was in some way identified with writing prose and poetry, as well as expounding the gospel truth to dying souls. Some were good writers and others not so good. Creeds and doctrines in the early days of the American churches were held in the highest terms, and thought to be a part of the “Divine Plan of Salvation.” Volume upon volume of such religious writings, together with endless sermons, were published, bound and placed on the shelves of libraries and studies, some to be read and reread and possibly answered by some other school of theology, while others were destined to be consigned to back rooms and out-of-the-way places in some library or private house, to be sold at auction a half century or more later, when creeds and dogmas had materially changed—sold not to be read, but sold as “old paper,” or in instances placed in antique book shops to show the more recent believers what their ancestry held as Biblical teachings and the only true faith. But while the foregoing was true of many literary characters at the early day, there were not a few brilliant writers whose works have stood the test of time.

Among the earliest local preachers in this part of the State was Rev. Samuel West, a Harvard graduate, who wrote “Essay on Liberty and Necessity,” printed in 1793, in which he contended hotly against the famous Jonathan Edwards. He also wrote on scientific subjects with a ready pen.

Another clergyman was Dr. Orville Dewey, of New Bedford, who published many sermons and theological essays, ordination sermons, and the like. He also wrote a book on “The Old World and the New,” and showed the morals and manners in this country and Europe. In one of his works he sought to show the “Moral Uses of the Pestilence, denominated Asiatic Cholera,” which had quite a sale here in New England.

A bitter controversy arose in 1837 over a pamphlet by Charles Morgridge, minister of the First Christian Church in New Bedford, entitled “The True Believers’ Defense Against Charges Preferred by Trinitarians.” This was answered by Phineas Crandall, pastor of the Second Methodist Episcopal Church, who wrote “The True Faith Vindicated.” Then that book had a reply by Rev. Morgridge, “An Appendix to the True Believers’ Defense,” usually styled “Reply to the True Faith Vindicated.”

Other writers who published their works included Rev. Ephraim Peabody; Enoch Mudge, the last on “Lectures to Young People”; Sylvester Holmes, whose sermon on the death of Averick K. Parker, wife of John



Avery Parker, was published in 1847; Wheelock Craig, minister of the Trinitarian Church, a sermon in book form on "Legislation as an Implement of Moral Reform."

Others of literary note among the clergy were J. N. Morrison, John Girdwood, William G. Eliot, later of the Middle West, and John Weiss. William J. Potter, pastor of the Unitarian Church for thirty years, was a man of rare literary ability. His "Twenty-five Sermons of Twenty-five Years" and "Lectures and Sermons," attracted much general attention. He was the editor for many years of the "Index." Later ministers who wrote with ability and strength were Henry M. Dexter, authority among American writers on the subject of the Pilgrims and Puritans, and of the history of Congregationalism. The Rev. M. C. Julien published sermons, fairy tales, and poems. An ethical writer of the middle of the last century, at New Bedford, was Clothier Gifford, whose book has the following interesting (long) title: "Essays on Health, Natural and Moral Laws and Education by Clothier Gifford, Teacher of Phrenology, Physiology, Natural and Moral Science, advocate of religion, purity, peace, temperance, Christian Union," etc. Rev. L. B. Bates, a Methodist Episcopal clergyman of New Bedford, was the author of "Hymnal For Social Worship Everywhere"; this was issued in Bedford in 1869. Among the later writers is recalled Miss Averic Francis, author of "The Religion of Christ in the Twentieth Century." In 1817 Dr. Alexander Reed published an address before the New Bedford Auxiliary Society for the Suppression of Intemperance. A few years ago a native of Dartmouth, Benjamin R. Tucker, wrote much along the line of socialism and anarchism. He styled himself "a philosophical anarchist." His writings were of a literary style, and possessed logic, from his standpoint.

So many authors have lived in and near New Bedford that the writer scarcely knows who to pick out as examples of literary ability. Among writers of more than ordinary talent may be noted: Hon. T. D. Elliot, Congressman; Hon. J. H. Clifford and George Fox Tucker, on legal questions, including the Monroe Doctrine; Andrew Ingraham, author of the "Swain School Lectures," "How Shall My Child Be Taught," C. F. King, Harry F. Harrington, Mrs. Rachel S. Howland, author of the "Christian Reader"; George B. Emerson, Walter S. Allen, Frederick K. Brown ("Al Priddy") author of "Through the Mill," and "Through the School," also "Man or Machine, Which?" Benjamin K. Rodman, 1840, wrote a plea against imprisonment for debt, called "A Voice from the Prison," he himself having been in prison in New Bedford for non-payment of his debts. He stated that in the New Bedford prison there had been incarcerated 438 persons for debts. Still some argue that the world is no better than formerly.

E. W. Hervey published three notable books of more than local interest: namely, "Plants Found in New Bedford and its Vicinity," 1860; "The Flora of New Bedford," 1891; "Observation On the Colors of Flowers and Leaves," 1889. Charles G. Congdon, of New Bedford, later on the editorial staff of the "New York Tribune," wrote many interesting, valuable things in his time; one of his books was called "Flowers Plucked Along Life's Journey." Rev. Walter Mitchell wrote many beautiful poems, and Senator Hoar, believed he wrote one that would immortalize his name over and

above the other members of his Harvard class. He referred to "Tacking Ship off Fire Island." W. W. Crapo, president of old Dartmouth Historical Society, was a poet of his class in Yale, and had he stuck to authorship instead of law, doubtless would have immortalized himself. E. H. Macy published in 1896, "Between Whiles," and Rev. H. W. Parker, pastor of the North Congregational Church, wrote "The Despised Race," 1863.

Strictly modern writers here include William C. Lawton, who writes with a wonderful vigor of expression. He is author of "Studies of the New England poets," "Folia Dispersa," "Art and Humanity in Homer." "The Student's Shakespeare" was by a Methodist minister of Fairhaven, 1880. The books of travel written in New Bedford is only expressed by the one word—Legion. A book entitled "Life in Feejee, or Five Years among the Cannibals, by a Lady," is said to have been written many years ago, by a Mary Wallis, wife of a sea captain who sailed from New Bedford.

Biographical writers have been numerous in this vicinity, and some have been excellent in the preservation of historic facts gleaned as they compiled biography of the long since loved but now departed citizens of the county of Bristol: Crapo's "Memoir of John S. Brayton," Rodman's "Memoir of Joseph Grinnell," "The Autobiography of Joseph Bates," "Biographical Sketches of the Graduates of Yale College," by F. B. Dexter; "Biography of Samuel Clemens," or Mark Twain, written by Albert Bigelow Paine, a native of New Bedford; and "My Bondage and Freedom," written by Hon. Frederick Douglass, who lived in New Bedford for a number of years immediately following his escape from slavery. This work stands alongside "Uncle Tom's Cabin," by Harriet Beecher Stowe, as anti-slavery logic and fine literature.

---

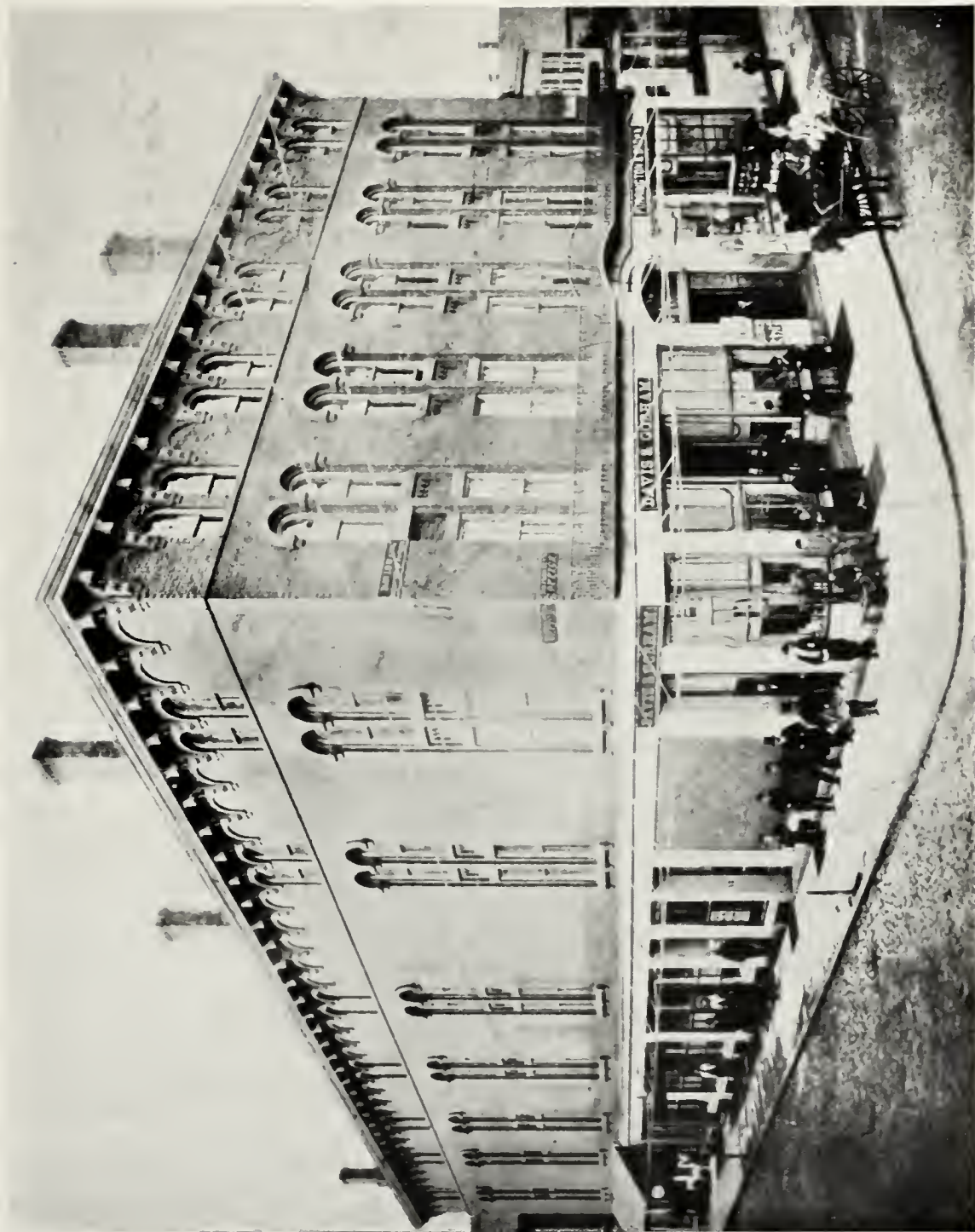
## CHAPTER XIX.

### FAMOUS PLAYERS AND OLD PLAYHOUSES—HISTORIANS AND ARTISTS

A few years have elapsed since this topic was written up by Edward Denham, to whom the writer is indebted for many of the facts connected with this chapter.

The Quakers, Congregationalists and "hard-shell" Baptists of long ago, in and around New Bedford, made an atmosphere unsuited for the drama or opera. These people looked upon such things as plays and any entertainment that was presented from the stage, as something low and of a degrading order. Later, they allowed lectures, concerts, wax figures, and at last attended, or allowed their children to attend, a small menagerie containing three animals. These entertainments were given in the Town Hall without much public protest. When a library was donated the Friends' Society in 1813, a committee went over the list of books and discarded many, such as the English Poets and Shakespeare's works, as unfit for the reading by the young people. Such opposition lasted many years in the neighborhood of New Bedford. February 2, 1857, came George Vandenhoff, temporarily retired from the stage, to give an evening entertainment before the Lyceum. On the platform was George Howland, Jr., as presi-





LIBERTY HALL BUILDING (FROM A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN IN 1867)





dent of the society. In one of the selections the celebrated reader became somewhat dramatic, whereupon Mr. Howland interrupted him, saying, "This is not a theatre." Mr. Vandenhoff replied by reciting the reply of Jacques to the Duke, in "As You Like It," beginning with, "All the World's a Stage." Applause followed, but the Quaker element saw no sense in the laughter.

At the corner of County and Elm streets many years ago stood a stable, where later the handsome residence of John Duff was erected. This building was finally remodeled and Mr. Hians opened up a circus in 1828, much to the annoyance of the citizens. In 1836 the building was opened as the Lion Theatre, J. Barrett, manager, with the play "Castle Spectre." F. L. Davenport, who made his first appearance on any stage that same year, was there. "Richard the Third" was played several times in New Bedford in that building and others. These were the first Shakespeare plays ever seen in the village, and trouble arose in the council over granting another license, but later the selectmen recanted. In 1840 a vote was had on the proposition of "Theatre or no Theatre" in New Bedford, when the vote stood "for" twelve; "against" five hundred and sixty-six.

After the present stone Unitarian church on Union street was completed (it was dedicated May 24, 1834), the old meeting-house (built 1795-7) at the corner of Purchase and Williams streets, was used for lecturers, concerts, etc., and was usually spoken of as the old church, etc., though an unsuccessful attempt was made to call it "The Forum." On March 13, 1841, it was sold with land under and adjoining the same. Then it was named Liberty Hall. In March, 1846, it was fitted up into a theatre. November 9, 1854, it burned down. That was the wooden structure the older citizens recall. On May 20, 1856, a new Liberty Hall of brick was opened on the site of the old one. On February 10, 1864, the interior was burned out. The walls were repaired and enlarged and the building again opened on December 5, 1864. That was a few years ago demolished to make way for the Merchants' National Bank.

From 1851 to 1861 many Shakespearian plays were seen from the stage in New Bedford. E. L. Davenport May 22, 1861, played "Hamlet," and the following evening "Othello." Possibly the most notable events in theatrical lines in this city was the visit of Charlotte Cushman, who played here on four consecutive evenings in May, 1861. On the 28th she appeared as Lady Macbeth; J. B. Studley was Macbeth; John Gilbert, first witch, and Miss Viola Crocker, first singing witch. On the 29th the play was "King Henry Eighth; Miss Cushman, Queen Katharine; John Gilbert, King Henry; J. B. Studley, Cardinal Wolsey; Miss Crocker, Anna Boleyn. On the evening of the 30th, "Romeo and Juliet" was presented: Miss Cushman as Romeo; Miss Crocker, Juliet; John Gilbert, Friar Lawrence; J. B. Studley, Mercutio. On the next evening the "Merchant of Venice" was produced. In 1876 and 1877 the stage here was honored by the presence of the celebrated actors, Booth and Barrett.

Most of the great players of contemporaneous times have appeared at the New Bedford Theatre on Union street, and the Opera House which was built from Old Grace Church about forty years ago, the theatre being built where the first Opera House stood. In 1915 the Olympia Theatre, seating 2,800 persons, was built on Purchase street.

New Bedford's first history was written by the pen of Daniel Ricketson, who passed from earth a number of years ago, aged eighty-five years. He was born on the old Ricketson homestead, corner of Acushnet avenue and Union street, July 30, 1813. He fitted for college at Friends' Academy in New Bedford, but changed and took up law with Charles Francis Warren. He practiced law a few years, but not finding the profession what he thought it would be, he withdrew from the bar. At about that date his father died and left him a competency, enabling the son to pursue more congenial callings, more to his natural bent—to become a real son of nature and be with nature at her untrammelled best. He removed to a quiet place on Acushnet avenue, which he improved and which he called "Woodlee." Later, however, he removed to the old family house in New Bedford where he died. He lived also many years at Brooklawn Park, and there in the true heart of nature he wrote the first history of his native town and city. This was in 1858. The first of his historical notes, however, were published in the New Bedford "Daily Mercury," September 27, 1856. This was followed each Saturday and which with changes, constituted the material from which later he compiled his "History of New Bedford," a work of intrinsic value to later writers. He also wrote the beautiful poem entitled "The Autumn Sheaf," published in 1869. Much of his writing was performed in what he termed "The Shanty," a little vine-covered building now to be seen by the house at Brooklawn Park. In this rustic building he passed many a happy hour and day with his pen and his literary friends. Emerson, George William Curtis and Thoreau were his frequent callers. He made the acquaintance of such great characters as William Lloyd Garrison, Ralph Waldo Emerson, A. Bronson Alcott, Charles Sumner, and others of national celebrity. The papers in "Harper's" by Curtis give this description of Mr. Ricketson:

He is as shy as a partridge, and not only lives somewhat of a recluse from men, but actually hides himself under a broad brimmed slouched hat and within the charitable folds of a huge old-fashioned camlet cloak, even when you are walking or talking with him. His avoidance of society is instinctive as a musician avoids discords, and he has a humorous twinkling sarcasm in his treatment of those who seem to him sophisticated or enslaved by society. A black hat or dress coat affect him like the most ludicrous jests, and the habit of stuffing good honest English talk with French phrases excites his utmost contempt. He declares that he should as soon think of larding a beef tongue with the fat of frogs. Moreover, he is very fond of insisting that civilization has half ruined us.

One expression of this man was quoted by Mr. Curtis in Harper's publication which reads as follows: "I believe that in society people put on their best clothes to come together and see each other eat. I presume from what I know of society that they do so. I should be very much surprised if they did not."

Another history of New Bedford was written by Leonard B. Ellis, in about 1897. He was the son of Caleb L. and Abbie D. (Hathaway) Ellis, and was born in New Bedford in 1838. He was educated at the Brush street grammar school, and three years' course in the high school under John F. Emerson. He followed the cooper's trade with his father, with whom he became a partner in 1859. For twenty-five years he conducted a picture-framing concern after the close of the Civil War period. His store and shop was a resort for literary people and lovers of fine art goods



which he handled. He wrote an acceptable history of New Bedford city.

As to local painters, there were many who achieved wider fame than that of William A. Wall—Albert Bierstadt, R. Swain Gifford and William Bradford for example, but none performed a greater or more lasting service for New Bedford than Wall, for he devoted his artistic genius to illuminating the pages of local history, and through his efforts and skilful brush has been preserved a beautiful, lifelike group of paintings, accurate in every detail, and also truthful, in the portraits of leading actors of an ancient day. Such pictures as the "Whale Fishery," the view of "The Four Corners," in 1807, and the "Landing of Gosnold," are all of great value as illustrating the earlier periods of history. Only a few people who are familiar with the famous painting of New Bedford in 1810 or its reproductions know that almost every figure in it is that of an historical personage of the early place. It was painted in 1857, and originally bore the title "New Bedford Fifty Years Ago." Another painting of historic value and merit is "The Early Whale Fishery," in which Joseph Russell is supposed to be watching the unloading of a small vessel which has just returned from a successful cruise. From Mr. Wall's brush is also a full length portrait of Abraham H. Howland, first mayor of New Bedford. Benjamin Russell was a painter of the old whaling days. His work is familiar to collectors of rare New England paintings. William Bradford was another renowned marine artist, born in Fairhaven, 1823, died 1892. He began painting ships in Lynn Harbor and in Nova Scotia. He made several expeditions in the arctic regions and studied the icebergs and floes. Albert Bierstadt was another fine artist who brought much fame to New Bedford. "Fishing Boats in Fundy Bay" was one of his masterpieces. He was a native of Germany, born in 1830. He began to paint in oil in 1851.





PART V.

# HISTORY OF ATTLEBORO





# HISTORY OF ATTLEBORO

---

## CHAPTER I.

### ATTLEBORO ORIGINS

Attleboro, chief jewelry manufacturing centre in the United States, is a culmination of the proofs of a continuous expression of the industrial spirit and purpose of the Old Colony, as well as a remarkable demonstration of present-day specialization in manufacturing. It has two engrossing chapters in its life—that of its origins, nearly co-existent with the beginnings of New England; and the story of today, a continuous one in the industrial realm. Were we to begin the historical narrative of Attleboro with reference to that unknown Frenchman who in 1780 began to manufacture jewelry in this town, and so continue through increasingly abundant and absorbing chapters of the growth of jewelry-making, we should present the account of the life and times of Attleboro as most people know them. But it would still be in order to find and follow the original, the fleeting paragraphs, that lead us up to this present, in order that the old Attleboro and the new be united in the sequences of the story. Busy and active a world as it is, there are exceedingly few men, after all, who disregard their own ancestry, humble though the start may have been; and there are but few who confess to no interest in the recital of successive foundations. There should be fewer still who are willing to lose sight of the recollection of the twinkling lights of the first wilderness and village homes of Attleboro, from whose hearths were lighted the fires of the city's energies. Let us look back unto the thresholds and rebuild the lost rooftrees.

Three men distinguished in their pioneer age above others, and respectfully regarded today, had to do with making sure of the provision for the settlement of the lands whereon Attleboro town must one day arise. Those men were Captain Thomas Willett, friend of red man and white, purchaser of territory for the future settlement, and first English mayor of New York; William Blackstone, first of all white settlers in Boston (then Shawmut), and earliest householder within the ancient limits of Attleboro; and John Woodcock, first to set up his home and tavern within the bounds of the present Attleboro. Because of their activities in their unpopulous but eventful day, room was to be made for settlers from adjoining towns and from overseas who should later themselves give way to representatives of many other races, and in this New England hamlet and city illustrate again the world-old way of the incessant ebb and flow of the tides of humanity—movements that we style those of old and new régimes, that have always provided causes for jealousies and conflicts, but that are as natural as the tides and the seasons. Of these three men there shall be a later detailed account as to their personality and influence; they introduce for us our narrative, but to appear again—as for the present we are to reckon with the reports of the beginning and progress of the town building. The story of the town of Rehoboth is woven in with that of the beginnings of Attleboro, and Rehoboth made its own generous contribution of families to this settlement, but in its own place in these volumes is to be told Rehoboth's story.

April 1, 1661, then, is a date that the Attleboro of today may well memorize for the event that it marks, and for what it means to all the industry of this hour. It indicates the day of the passing of a very old heritage of Indian proprietors into the hands of a white man who in his turn should pass it on to other groups of purchasers, founders of many families of the present. And this was only forty-one years after the arrival of the "Mayflower," whose passengers were to found the Old Colony of which this purchase was a part, and only twenty-four years after the purchase of the present Taunton was made of the Indians. These lands were those of Wamsutta, whose acquaintance we have made in the course of the narrative on the Indian wars, and in the transactions of the Freeman's purchase—that Wamsutta called Alexander by the English, and of whose father Massasoit nothing evil was ever written. There was neither seizure nor misrepresentation in the land negotiations here, Plymouth Court being the go-between for the Indian owners, the promulgated law of 1643 against independent and indiscriminate buying of property performing justly in behalf both of the natives and the purchasers.

"Rehoboth North Purchase."—By this title we shall ever know our newly acquired lands in their primitive times of the wide boundaries, the tract limit on its west being the present Blackstone river, on its north the "Bay Line"; on its east the present Mansfield, Norton and Easton; south, the present Attleboro, Seekonk, Pawtucket and East Providence; and the purchase was inclusive of Attleboro, of Cumberland, Rhode Island, and a tract a mile and a half wide, extending east and west, and part of Wrentham and Foxboro. The mile and a half tract was given to Rehoboth, but in 1710 was restored to Attleboro.

And in this purchase, too, as we read over the old deed, we note the statement of the reservation made by the Indians—"reserving only a competent portion for some of the natives to plant and sojourn upon"—again a refutation of unwarranted statements of some writers to the effect that the first comers took by force all lands from the red man proprietors. For a period of five years, 1661 to 1666, the title of all this property remained in the name of one man, Captain Thomas Willett, though he had purchased at the solicitation of many. On April 10 of 1666, he conveyed the purchase to the representatives of the Plymouth Colony government, who in turn on that day conveyed it to settlers in Rehoboth and neighboring places, who held £50 estates and more. When in 1672, three years before King Philip's war, a full list of the proprietors was made, that list showed eighty-two owners, and the number of shares as eighty and one-half. These proprietors were very methodical and explicit in the keeping of their land accounts, a number of their carefully prepared ledgers with pigskin covers, as well as those of the Taunton North Purchase, being preserved as relics. It was a unique organization, that of those old proprietors; they held the interesting position in those days of a separate body from that of the town corporation, and, as stated, they kept books of their own. They chose their own clerks, standing committees and surveyors, and at times looked after the bounds of the purchase and made strenuous effort to secure them. They laid out many needed highways for the town, and ordered that all timber



cut on undivided lands should be seized; and they even laid out the town's burial place, "on the hill, before Mr. David Freeman's."

A power within itself was the proprietorship, the last of whose records having to do with the laying out of lands is of March 15, 1839. Their books began in 1672, the Rehoboth town books having contained any previous record relating to overtures for their transactions. They transacted all their own laws relating to the ownership, and gave their own titles to lands. Neither were they an exclusive autocracy other than the primitive situation warranted, as at first their lands were exempted from taxation "to accommodate the poorer sort with lands, and yet so as not to oppress them as much as otherwise." These were their clerks from the beginning: William Carpenter, Jr., chosen May 17, 1682; Daniel Smith, May 31, 1703; Noah Carpenter, April 23, 1724; John Robbins, Jr., May 1, 1752; John Daggett, December 9, 1763; Ebenezer Daggett, July 1, 1793; and Lucas Daggett, last of the clerks of the proprietary, March 15, 1839.

Contrary to the known facts with regard to many of the transactions in land hereabouts, we do not know what sum of money or commodities were paid to the Indian sachem, but the deed assures us that "divers good causes and valuable considerations" were in the exchange. And it is worth repeating that the best, the most practical and enduring currency from the standpoint both of the natives and the newcomers was garden seed, garden tools, cutlery, clothing, and even beads for ornaments. If in our luxurious days we demur at this, let us put ourselves in seventeenth century conditions in that wilderness by means of old records and the various viewpoints of the bookmen.

These "north-purchased" lands may be properly styled as at first a plantation of Rehoboth, and even up to the date of the incorporation in 1694, a portion of Rehoboth's meadow lands. Rehoboth townsmen fathered the motive and the settlement of the section to no minor degree. Yet the chartered limits of Rehoboth were never inclusive of those of the "north purchased" properties, as Hon. John Daggett, thoroughgoing historian, has demonstrated from his close study of the first proceedings of Rehoboth, whose survey is open to all future historians. Though the purchase originated to a very great extent in Rehoboth, and though even a division of a part of those north lands had been made by Rehoboth men June 22, 1658, three years before Willett had bought of Wamsutta, by approval of the Plymouth Court, and for grazing purposes for their cattle, yet the North Rehoboth Purchase was then considered a separate settlement under Rehoboth jurisdiction, until the incorporation of Attleboro; and up to then the inhabitants north were subject to the town government of Rehoboth. Again, while lots were drawn for the meadows north that have just been referred to as having been granted by the court previous to the purchase (May 26, 1668), the first division of general lands was made February 9, 1668, and lots were drawn for this division March 18 that year.

A town meeting was held that day, March 18, when it was voted that there should be fifty acres of land laid out to a share on the north purchased lands; that the purchasers should draw lots for their choice; that each one should choose his lands successively according to his turn, and give notice to the next in turn, and that if any neglected or refused to make choice and

lay out his land in his turn for the space of three days after notice given him, he should wait until others had made choice in regular order. Such was the care accorded the transaction. And it was on this same day that a committee of eight were chosen "any two of whom might act, to see that these rights should not be laid out as to interfere with highways, previous divisions of meadows, or other lotments," the committee consisting of William Sabin, Nicholas Peck, Samuel Newman, James Reddeway, Thomas Willmott, Samuel Peck, Lieutenant Hunt, Joseph Buckland. The following-named nine purchasers entered their protest against the manner of laying out of the lands by choosing, namely: Capt. Willett, Mr. Myles, Will. Sabin, Mr. Brown, Dea. Cooper, John Miller, Sr., John Peren, Sr., George Kendricke, Will. Carpenter. And these drew for a division on that day: John Titus, Joseph Buckland, John Ormsby, Lands of Children of Alexander Winchester, deceased, Nathl. Paine, Goody Hide, Rice Leonard, John Allin, Jr., Nicholas Peck, Ichabod Miller, Jr., Robert Wheaton, John Doggett, Deacon Cooper, Philip Walker, Tho. Read, Joseph Peck, John Read, Sr., Jonathan Bliss, Roger Amidowne, Stephen Paine, Jr., Thomas and Jacob Ormsby, Richard Bullock, Daniel Smith, John Kingsley, Obadiah Bowing, John Peren, Sr., Robert Jones, Will. Buckland, James Gillson, Israil Peck, Anth. Perry, Eldad Kingsley, Tho. Cooper, Jr., Mr. Myles, Richard Bemies, Jr., John Fitch, Joseph Carpenter, Preserved Abel, John Woodcock, John Allen, Sr., Nich. Ide, Capt. Willet, James Reddeway, Sam. Newman, Stephen Paine, Sr., Jona. Palmer, Robert Miller, Tho. Willmott, Gilbert Brooks, Wid. Carpenter, Left. Hunt, Jaret Ingraham, Francis Stephens, John Read, Jr., Mr. Newman, Rich. Martin, John Butterworth, George Kendrick, John Lowell, Thomas Grant, Mr. Brown, Nath. Peck, George Robinson, Jonathan Fuller, Jonathan Bosworth, Sam. Peck, Robert Fuller, Nath. Paine, Jr., Richard Whittaker, Sam. Carpenter, Edward Hall, Nicholas Tanner, John Savage, Will Saben, Will Carpenter, Sampson Mason, John Peck, Ben Buckland, Hen. Smith, Sam. Luther.

Frequent complaints were made, however, concerning the divisions of the lands and the boundaries, as well as with regard to the assessments, but eventually the boundaries matter was decided, October 31, 1699, when it was voted that there should be two divisions of lands in the North Purchase forthwith laid out to the said proprietors according to their rights in said lands, "namely, twenty-five acres to the first division, and twenty-five acres to the second division; and he that is first in the first division shall be last in the second division, and so on"; and when at their meeting of November 7, 1699, the proprietors drew lots for their new division, they had increased to one hundred and thirty-three in number.

The date of the incorporation of the town of Attleboro is October 19, 1694, when the population of the place was about 180, the families being pretty well scattered throughout the territory. As in the similar case of the naming of Taunton from the mother-town of Taunton, England, whence had come John and Walter Deane, first settlers, in like manner was Attleboro named—John Sutton and his family, and Thomas Daggett, among the first settlers here, having originated in Attleborough, Norfolk county, England, their voice evidently having been a prevailing one in the naming. Then, two years afterwards, came the town meetings, when popular influ-



ence began to make itself evident through the popular vote; and this with the co-existent and equal powers of the proprietors' meetings.

The first record that we possess of a town meeting here is that of date May 11, 1696, when John Woodcock and John Rogers were appointed to supervise matters concerning the mile and a half part of the township to the north, and when Israel Woodcock, Thos. Tingley and Samuel Titus were appointed assessors for the ensuing year. It is probable that a town meeting preceded this one, but we have no statement of it from any source. But within the year (November 23, 1696) another town meeting was held, when we first hear of a concerted movement of the townsmen towards erecting a church building, the following-named six men agreeing to pay £4, 20s. as a "free gift towards the building of a meetinghouse"—John Woodcock, John Lane, Israel Woodcock, Thomas Woodcock, George Robinson, David Freeman. The town debt at this time was more than five pounds. These were the officers then chosen for the ensuing year: Mr. John Woodcock, Anthony Sprague, Daniel Jenks, Jonathan Fuller, Thomas Tingley, selectmen; Anthony Sprague, town clerk; Israel Woodcock, town constable; Nicholas Ide and Joseph Cowel, surveyors; Henry Sweet, tithingman; Thomas Tingley and Samuel Titus, fence viewers; John Woodcock, Anthony Sprague and Daniel Jenks, assessors; John Lane, grand-juryman; Benjamin Force for the jury of trials in April at the next quarter sessions at Bristol.

In the series of these first town meetings, measures that were of lasting import to a recently settled community were consummated, such as the following: On March 22, 1696-7, all the inhabitants and town dwellers were given a right to vote at town meeting; July 12, 1697, the town pound was established "upon a piece of undivided land between the properties of Daniel Shepperson and James Jillson near the Bay Road."

On July 1 of the same year, the town passed orders against the harboring by townsmen of disorderly strangers and foreigners, or armed and uncivil Indians. Attleboro must have been especially afflicted in regard to such trespassers, as we can point to no similar town order in the Old Colony. Daniel Shepperson, at the meeting of March 4, 1699 or 1700, not only gave a piece of ground for the pound proposed a few years previously, but his house was appointed to be the "certain known place for town meetings." The town green, or training place, is first mentioned at town meeting of March 25, 1701, to be "on the south side of David Freeman's house, between the two ways, namely the Bay Road, and the road that leadeth to Nicholas Ide's house." At this meeting, also a set time was appointed for election day for choosing town officers, namely the last Tuesday in March. A town meeting of direct interest to the present generation was that of February 9, 1702-3, when Ensign Nicholas Ide and Anthony Sprague, with the selectmen, were appointed a committee to seek an agreement concerning the lines and bounds between Attleboro, Dorchester and Wrentham. The town's poor are first mentioned in the entry of October 5, 1714, and the first rendered accounts for the care of the poor were dated October 22, 1722.

The town was divided into quarters December 30, 1718, and a little later the highways were laid out. An endeavor was made in 1751 to keep a record of births; and in the following year the town was divided into



twelve parts; in 1761, £50 was appropriated for schools and £50 for the poor; September 12, 1768, it was voted to build a house in which to keep the town's stock of ammunition, Jacob Newell, who gave the land for the purpose, being town treasurer. The building was used as a powder house in 1776 and 1812.

Such was the typical tenor of the town meetings at this early period, and of this sort were the processes accompanying the founding of the township. Comparatively speaking, it was not by any means small town business that called town officers and purchase proprietors to their meetings; for they were then considering in all their proposals and orders, that appear of little weight to us, the one project of furnishing a new and useful town to the increasing communities of the Old Colony.

---

## CHAPTER II.

### ATTLEBORO'S FIRST PURCHASERS AND SETTLERS

The first comers to Attleboro lands have their enduring place; and those early sowers are not to be set aside by the present-hour reapers in the fields of local history. They came and conquered a wilderness, and as a result, from that time onwards there always has been a town and a city, and a place for the new-comers and the industrious. Leaders among the town builders in New England, they were the men of the hour for their age, and they are not to be forgotten. Yet we are not to crown them as extraordinary men, except as we think of them courageously facing the wilderness and attempting to restore the barrens. Some of them helped make the laws of the time that seem so stringent to us, but that were necessary for their era; and others shared in the evasion of those laws. We shall upon no pretense, for example, condone the acts of individuals with regard to the misfortunes of Indians, yet we shall not fail to recall the fact that the Plymouth Court itself made just laws intended for the safety and good order of the colony, and much of the results of the Attleboro town meetings were based upon the example set by that court. Let us not hasten, then, to the story of today, as it is contained within these volumes, until we somewhat acquaint ourselves with those folk who made clear the paths for our coming.

In a preceding chapter we have made introductory reference to the men who first ventured here—colonial men, yet distinct types of colonists. From all that we have been able to read of Thomas Willett; first called Captain when he succeeded Captain Myles Standish as the leader of the militia of Plymouth, we gather that he was an enterprising, progressive business man, a fearless spirit, adapting himself naturally to the frontier life that he had chosen. Two outstanding facts are generally known of him: he was the first purchaser of this tract of land, and he was the first English mayor of New York, twice elected. These two facts are interesting enough to cause us to make further inquiry about him. He was a native of Barley in Hertfordshire, England, son of Dr. Andrew Willett, rector of that parish. In 1629 he was in Holland and associated with the Leyden congregation; there he knew many of the Pilgrim Fathers, and shared their views. He came

to Plymouth on the ship "Lion" in 1632, and became a freeman there in January, 1633, and was granted six acres of land. He married Mary Brown, daughter of John and Dorothy Brown, July 6, 1636, and they had thirteen children. A man of mental attainments, he saw and welcomed opportunities for the enlargement and further settlement of the colony, both natives and settlers trusting him thoroughly. How much was he trusted? He was assistant at the General Court fourteen years; was captain of the military force at Plymouth; was delegate to Massachusetts, representing the interests of the Plymouth Colony; was made representative at Kennebec of the Plymouth company; and in a score of other ways, he was of special service to his times.

This was the way of his going to New York and becoming the chief executive of the city. New Amsterdam and the New Netherlands capitulated to the English forces September 7, 1664, and New York took their place. The king's commissioners having knowledge of Captain Willett's intimacy with the Dutch language and customs, he was selected by the Plymouth Court to assist in settling affairs of the new régime. His labors in that regard were so meritorious that he at once became popular, and upon the organization of the government under the English rule on June 12, 1665, he was elected mayor. Afterwards he was alderman of the city, and in 1666 he was again elected mayor. Early in 1668, he returned to Swansea; but again, in 1670-72, he was elected commissioner to the general council of the United Colonies; he was directed by Plymouth Colony to purchase lands from the Indians; and he determined the boundary between the New York and New Haven colonies. He was tactful, and in treaty and parley with the Indians won their confidence. In that, he was leader, too. Not only was he the original purchaser of Rehoboth North, for Rehoboth later settlers and others, but he was one of the purchasers of Taunton North; and he and Rev. Mr. Myles, first of the Baptist clergymen in New England, were founders of the town of Swansea.

Because of his services to the colony, Captain Willett was granted a tract of about 600 acres of land on both sides of Seven Mile river, and known to this day as Willett's farm. He died at Swansea August 4, 1674, sixty-three years of age, and his burial-place is at Seekonk. His descendants are numerous and many have been prominent; as, for example, a great-grandson, Samuel, who also was a mayor of New York City. This was the sort of pioneer captain and public-spirited townsman who first brought Attleboro territory into notice.

But though Captain Willett purchased, he never settled in Attleboro. Yet, one of the unusual characters of the early colonial period, namely William Blackstone, did come here and establish his home within the town's original limits. A graduate of Emmanuel College, Cambridge University, England, where he received his Master of Arts degree in 1621, we remember him as having been first also to settle within Boston territory, or at Blackstone's Neck, Shawmut, as it was called. Five years before Governor Winthrop and his group of settlers came, he was there established, and there he lived part of his solitary though studious and active life. A minister of the Established Church, he left England, as he himself stated, "not being able to endure the power of the lords bishop." At Shawmut he set up his household goods, and cared for garden and orchard.



But when Winthrop came, and his removal was desired to a nearby location of fifty acres, he was unwilling to be engineered by the "lords brethren"; and so, taking the purchase price for the relinquishment of his title, nearly £30, he removed with a stock of cattle the long way to Rehoboth North Purchase, thirty-five miles south of his original plantation. That was in 1634.

As he had enjoyed his solitude, his orchard and his books at Shawmut, he again resumed that condition and those occupations within old Attleboro lines, where now is Cumberland, Rhode Island, or, more immediately, Lonsdale. His place of refuge he called Study Hall, and a hill nearby was named by him Study Hill. On July 5, 1659, however, he was married to Sarah Stevenson, widow of John Stevenson of Boston. He had been resident in New England fifty years, forty of those years in this part of the Old Colony, when he died, May 26, 1675, leaving an estate of two hundred acres. Blackstone's lineal descendants have erected a monument to his memory, on the spot where his remains were found, and within the yard of the present Lonsdale Company's Ann and Hope mill. For a moment let us pause and wonder, as the more leisurely clerks of former times would do, concerning the remarkable extremes of that hermit life, and the present locality of the grave of Blackstone—the one passed within an unbounded wilderness; the latter at the very doors of a modern industry. We can never fully understand his choice; and he never could have foreseen nor assented to his burial-place.

Blackstone's library consisted of one hundred and eighty-four books, among them being ten "paper books," all of which were destroyed in the Indian war. Were the ten "paper books" valued manuscript of the hermit-writer? Other historians say they were "probably MSS," but we may not conjecture, interesting as the thought is. He was a faithful orchardist here, as he had been at Shawmut, and anecdotes still continue to be told of his devotion to his "hobby" as we might now call it, of apple-raising and of the excellence of his product. Some of his trees, declares Hon. John Daggett, were living one hundred and forty years after they had been set out, and in 1646 there was an apple that had been named for him. Further than that, in 1836, three apple trees were standing upon the meadow, near the site of Study Hall, and two of them were bearing apples; yet Study Hill and Study Hall have both disappeared at this time, and a cotton mill takes their place. Blackstone knew a kindred spirit, Roger Williams, and upon one occasion he preached in Williams' pulpit. Hermit-like though his manner of living was, yet he was one of those who opened the path for the approach of this generation, and his presence here has been recognized by the naming of a river for him—of a town, a factory, a banking institution.

The firstlings of all divisions of time and place continue to hold more than transient attention. Blackstone came first to the original bounds of the township; and soon afterwards, in 1669, arrived John Woodcock from Roxbury, to settle within the present Attleboro limits. Here for many years he dwelt, believing well in the employment of hands and brain, yet one of the most famous and self-confessed of Indian haters that ever trod the highways of Bristol county. His convenient location upon the highway was near the Baptist meeting house, where in later times stood the Hatch tavern, his public house being fortified throughout that period as a garrison



house, and there, so state the Old Colony records, "he was enjoined to keep good order, and that no unruliness or ribaldry be permitted there." A strenuous townsman, outspoken and at times very vengeful, yet he was elected a deputy to the General Court, and he became a large landholder, in the ownership of more than six hundred acres of land.

Like others of his time, though, he sat in the stocks an hour on training day, and he paid a fine of forty shillings for going into the house of an Indian and "taking away an Indian child and some goods" in the place of debt that it was stated the Indian owed him. No western plainsman of a half century ago was the possessor of a more bitter hatred against the red race than was John Woodcock, and it was such stubborn and callous settlers as he who demolished the best intentions of the Plymouth government as regards Indian rights and privileges. He utterly disliked his Indian neighbors, and their dislike of him was as fervent. The incident relating to his forcible entry into and taking property from the house of an Indian took place more than twenty years before the King Philip war; but when the Indians slew one of his sons and maltreated the body in 1676, he never at any time lost sight of his purpose of retaliation that gave him no rest until he had run to earth as many as possible of the natives. Says Hon. John Daggett of this tireless Indian hunter: "He was foremost in all enterprises the object of which was the destruction of the Indian, and it is said that after his death the scars of seven bullet holes were found in his body." The tavern or garrison house, established by him in 1670, was noted in its day, and famous for generations to follow, as it was one of a number of similar garrison houses that extended along the Bay road from Boston to Rhode Island. The military of all the colonial period made the place their headquarters, as they did the garrison houses at Boston, Dedham, Rehoboth and elsewhere. There halted Captain Moseley and his one hundred and ten men on their way to Swansea; and there stopped Captains Henchman and Prentice in the King Philip war. There were entertained Judge Sewall on his way from Rehoboth; there, too, Madame Knight lodged en route from Boston to New York.

Woodcock occupied the garrison house as its proprietor twenty-three years, and in 1693-4 he conveyed it to John Devotion, who managed the place more than seventeen years. In 1711, Devotion conveyed the tavern and its farm of two hundred acres to John Daggett of Chilmark, and he, in April 16, 1722, to John Marcy. Colonel Israel Hatch became the owner in 1780, and in 1906 the old landmark was torn down.

So we have glimpses of the three prominent first comers. Gradually came other adventurers and home-makers with their families, such as John Fitch, who settled not far from the gardens of Blackstone; while at the present Attleboro Falls section the new lands held out their attractions to John Daggett, who was the first one to lay out properties there, and who sold fifty acres to his brother Thomas in 1677. There was also valuable land in the immediate vicinity of the falls, and including the falls rights that belonged to Edgard Hall, who first hailed from Taunton, later from Rehoboth. In 1686, Mr. Hall's lands came into the possession of the Daggetts, Joseph Daggett building the first corn mill there. Thomas Butler was also a neighbor to the Daggett family at that location. The following-

named, who constituted the first land directory, many of them immediate settlers, made this their home.

The one-share purchasers: Captain Thomas Willett (John Wilkinson's share), Mr. Noah Newman, Lieutenant Peter Hunt, Mr. James Browne, Samuel Newman, John Allen, Sr., Sampson Mason, Anthony Perry, John Butterworth (whose share was sold to Daniel Jenkes including meadow), Peter Walker, John Ormsby, Richard Martin, Stephen Paine, Jr., Robert Jones, Obadiah Bowen, John Pecke, James Redeway, Samuel Carpenter, Mr. John Myles, William Carpenter, Joseph Pecke, Thomas Cooper, Jun., Ensign Henery Smith, Thomas Cooper, Sen., Samuel Pecke, William Buckland, Benj. Buckland, John Reade, Sr., John Reade, Jr., Nicholas Pecke, Elizabeth, Hannah and Lydia Winchester (whose share was sold to Daniel Shepardson), Daniel Smith, Jonathan Bliss, Rice Leonard, William Saben, John Perrin, Sen., George Kendricke, George Robenson, John Daggett, John Fitch, Richard Bowen, Jun., Elizabeth Bullucke, John Miller, Jun., Robert Fuller, Robert Wheaton, Ester Hall, John Miller, Sen., Jared Ingraham, John Kingsley, Gilbert Brookes, Thomas Reade, Jonathan Fuller, James Gillson (whose share was bought of Samuel Saben), Samuel Luther (whose share was sold to Mr. Philip, squire), Nicholas Turner, John Allen, Jun., Preserved Abell, Francis Stephens, Nicholas Ide, Richard Whittaker, Nathaniel Pecke, Israel Pecke, Jonah Palmer, Robert Miller, Nathaniel Paine (one-half of whose share he bought of Richard Bowen, Sen., the other half of Jeremiah Wheaton), John Polley (whose share was purchased of his father, Jon. Bosworth), William Allen of Prudense (whose share was bought of Nathaniel Paine), John Lovell, Eldad Kinsley. One-half share purchasers: Thomas Estabrooke (of Roger Amidowne), Thomas Grant, John Savage, Thomas Ormsby (of Richard Bowen, Sen.), Jacob Ormsby (the share purchased of his mother). One and one-half shares: John Woodcock. Two shares: Mr. Stephen Paine, Sen. (one that was his own and one that was appointed for John Martin); Thomas Willmot (one he bought of Jo. Carpenter, and one of his own), John Titus (one that he bought of his mother-in-law, Abigail Carpenter, and one that was his own).

These are no longer mere names to be overlooked in historical readings as they sometimes are, since the close researches of the genealogist have preserved all of them, and made them of perennial use in their voluminous chronicles of New England ancestry.

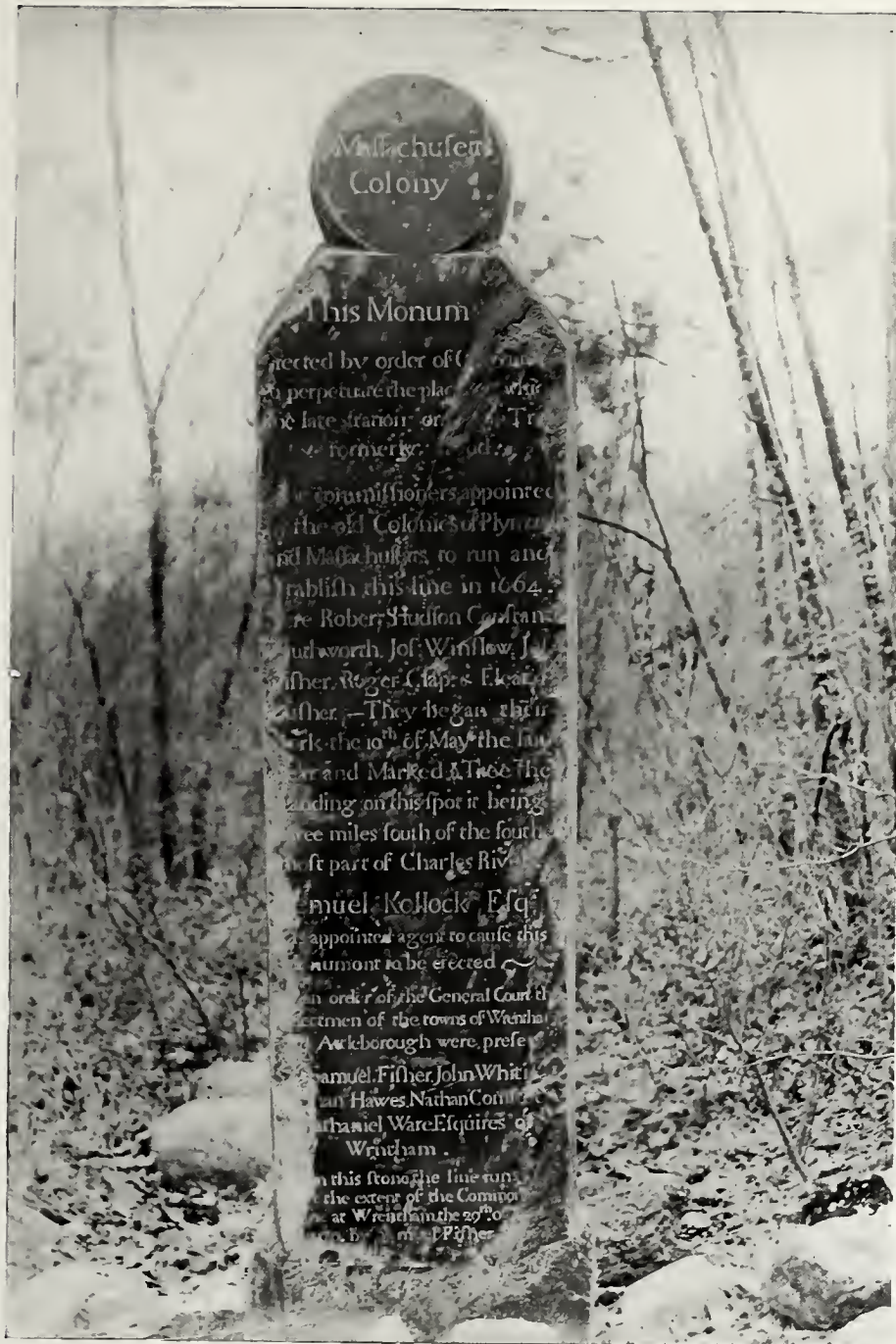
---

### CHAPTER III.

#### KING PHILIP AND REVOLUTIONARY WARS

Both the King Philip and the Revolutionary wars were decisive wars for New England, though too little heed is given the former as such. When New England historians incline to make short shrift of the Indian War of 1675-6 as one of the many isolated fights of the white men with the Indians, they hasten over the fact that that conflict represented the closing signal of a very old era for the original dwellers, and the opening of a new one for both themselves and the newcomers. It has been suggested in the introductory to this work that, compared with wars as later generations have experienced them, that named for Philip of the Wampanoags consisted of but little besides skirmishes, within this county, at least. Never-





THE OLD ANGLE TREE STONE—ATTLEBORO





theless, in Attleboro bounds, as elsewhere, the days of that age were very dark ones and the nights filled with terror on the part of the few colonists and their families, to whom the reported threats of "killing all and sparing none," as spread broadcast by the natives, had become warnings that all knew would be fulfilled. No longer remained the prudent and restraining régime of Massasoit, who bore and forbade much for the sake of the peace he so desired. Wamsutta, who had disposed of the Attleboro lands, had been dead some years. Captain Thomas Willett, who first bought the territory, and whose counsel might have revoked the hostilities themselves, had died in 1674. The consequence of trespass on the part of some of the white settlers, and of headstrong vengeance on the part of Philip and his closest friends, was the cause of the descent of war upon the Attleboro plantations as well as throughout the county.

Inevitably, civilization, according to all historical precedent, and in this case as represented by the Plymouth Court, had taken unto itself full authority, an assumption which, though in accordance to the ancient manner of the survival of the fittest, was repellent to those about to surrender the last of their patrimony. It had become an impossible thing that Philip should lay aside his arms, or forbid his people so to do—no one might now prevent war. And so the King Philip conflict ensued when were demolished the final barriers for the march of the new race through New England and eventually across a continent.

Philip would far rather be Metacomet than Philip, and his race Wampanoag rather than Christianized natives. From all the facts that can be gleaned about this period, the land transactions had been made between two impoverished peoples. The Indians had no riches, of course; they were shiftless, and they set small value upon the lands that they sold. The newcomers had no abundant means. They were settlers and home-builders, and they had left their native land to seek freedom from various kinds of tyranny. If we can divert our attention from the luxurious circumstances of the county of today, and recall the barren wilderness—the absolute isolation of that scene from almost every sign and mark of civilization—we may be enabled to sympathize with both those peoples at this crisis. With war fully developed, both white and red races became equally barbaric. It is true that the Indians slew Nathaniel Woodcock, son of the vengeful John Woodcock of Attleboro, and, cutting off his head, exhibited it upon a pole. But it is not a whit less true that white men in Taunton exhibited the head of the Indian princess Weetamoe upon a pole at Taunton Green, to the grief of her people, the prisoners of the white men.

But it was that action of the followers of Philip in Attleboro that roused that settlement; and, on the other hand, John Woodcock from that hour never showed mercy toward an Indian. The incident referred to took place in April, 1676, the remains of Nathaniel Woodcock being buried on the spot where now is the old burying-ground. A brother-in-law of Nathaniel also fell in this onslaught, the place then used as a cornfield. When it is understood that the settlement at this time consisted of but twenty-four persons, it will be conceded that the odds might appear against the colonists. As a result of this attack, John Woodcock asked of the government the return of six soldiers who had been withdrawn from the local garrison, and circumstances make it appear that his request was

granted. From that time onwards there was no relaxing of the vigilance of the people of this section, though battle events were comparatively few. The greatest severities of the war were not in this section. But the noted Pierce's fight is often recalled, that occurred here in that part of the town that is now Cumberland, Rhode Island. On March 26, 1676, a real battle occurred at that point.

This conflict was an ambushade, rather than an open set-to, and as a result of it the colony was the loser by about one-third of its fighting force. The militia had not sufficiently informed themselves of the Indian methods of warfare; and according to the historical narration they let themselves into a trap from which there was absolutely no escape for the most of them. It was Captain Michael Pierce who proved himself a hero at this period of New England history. In the lead of sixty-three Englishmen and twenty Indians from the cape, he was ordered to provide general defence for the settlements. Pursuing his way through Rehoboth to a point near to Hermit Blackstone's "Study Hill," he came upon a party of wary Red Men who by a pretense drew the small English force into the midst of some five hundred Indians who were in command of Canonchet. There was no getting away from the results of this manoeuvre. Here, the white men who had come to the defence of the colonists faced the greatest of odds, most of them falling in the fight; and again, when four hundred Indians, so runs the account, came up to re-enforce the others, it was then all up with Pierce and most of his brave comrades. There was neither progress nor retreat for the colonial militia, and after a courageous stand of two hours, Captain Pierce and fifty-five English and ten Cape Indians were killed. Authorities claim that the loss of the natives was one hundred and forty. Messages had been sent to Providence for help, but without result. A letter, now the property of the Worcester Antiquarian Society, is extant, that was written March 27, 1679, by Rev. Noah Newman, second minister at Rehoboth, that makes reference to this fight, and that names a number of the English that were engaged in it. Rehoboth colonists were the first to respond to the call for assistance, but the fight had taken place too quickly, and the smaller party of white men had met defeat and death.

The account of the "Nine Men's Misery" incident, then placed within the Attleboro bounds, also relates immediately to this period and this event. A heap of stones at the present Cumberland, Rhode Island, shows the spot where nine men fell at the hand of Indians. The former had strayed from a larger party, and while surprising and attacking a smaller force of Indians were themselves overcome by another party of Red Men. They sold their lives dearly, with their backs to the rock near which they were afterwards buried. It is the belief of John Daggett, historian, confirmed by contemporary evidence, that the nine men were of those who had escaped from Pierce's fight. Cumberland, where these affairs took place, was separated from Attleboro and became a part of Rhode Island in 1745. Previously known as Attleboro Gore, it had comprised about one-half the original town. It was in August, 1676, that the renowned fight was closed with the capture of Anawan at Rehoboth.

**Attleboro in the Revolution.**—Attleboro, having performed her part in the subjugation of the wandering earlier owners of this territory, was now



about to share in that other war, for absolute independence—the Revolution, whose event should detach from America her yoked obligations to burdens of unnecessary taxation. “Dutiful and loyal subjects” were the townsmen here, in common with the men of Taunton and elsewhere, when they sounded the first public note of self-defense in their expostulations with the crown and its representatives. The colony-wide denunciation of the methods of the paternal government overseas was adopted here and given expression to in terms of Attleboro’s own selection, and that foretold nothing less than the ultimate struggle for freedom. “Dutiful and loyal subjects” these townsfolk would continue to be up to that moment, but their patience was strained to the breaking-point.

The resultant note of Attleboro town meeting of July 18, 1773, must always be referred to as one of the great climacteric incidents in this town’s story—the daring address that was forwarded thence to the patriotic committee in Boston proving second to none among the scores of township declarations of rights that were being poured in at that period. “We esteem our privileges tantamount to our lives,” ran the Attleboro statement, “and the loss of them death, in consequence.”

Five stout-hearted men formed the bulwark of the town’s safety just then, to stand nobly by that declaration, and to make preparations for the inevitable task to be undertaken. Those men were Mr. Edward Richards, Deacon Eben Lane, Captain John Daggett, Lieutenant Moses Wilmarth, Mr. Elisha May. These men were singled out for their work in September, 1744, and in the same month, the intrepid Captain Daggett was elected a representative to the General Court at Salem, and the no less intrepid Deacon Lane a committeeman for the Provincial Congress in October. Events now moved along with patriotic speed, for in December the town voted to stand by the rulings of the Continental and Provincial Congresses, and to treat all who refused to comply as “infamous persons.” At this meeting, also, a superior and an inferior court were established to determine with regard to any controversies that might be brought up. The superior judges, as appointed, were Deacon Lane, Colonel John Daggett, Captain John Stearns, Captain Moses Wilmarth, Dr. Bezaliel Mann. The inferior judges were Mr. Edward Richards, Lieutenant Elkanah Wilmarth, Captain Jacob Ide, Captain Stephen Richardson, Mr. Elisha May, Captain John Tyler, Mr. William Stanley. Besides these, thirteen men were appointed as a committee of inspection regarding the use of India tea in the town. The committee of correspondence, inspection and safety was similar as to the official duties to those of any other town in the county. They were appointed each successive year until the close of the war, new names of patriots being added now and then; and they were as thorough and impartial in their methods as their co-workers in every town in the Province. Such men as Colonel John Daggett and Captain John Stearns represented the town at the Provincial Congress: and it must be granted that a noble stand was taken when on that occasion in May, 1776, a committee of the townsmen counselled their representative, Captain Stearns, in this manner: “If the Continental Congress should think it best to declare for independency of Great Britain, we unanimously desire you for us to engage to defend them therein with our lives and fortunes.”

The urge of the times here was filled with just such expressions of

independence, and of devoted pledges to the new government that was rapidly asserting itself. The warrant for the town meeting of October, 1776, for the first time was pronounced in the name of the State and people of Massachusetts Bay—no longer in "his majesty's name. And the fervent desire for the union of States was approved and forwarded in the popular sentiment included in the instructions given Captain Stearns and William Stanley: "We shall rejoice at the arrival of the happy hour when the Independent States of North America have a union established upon equitable terms, to continue as long as the sun and moon endure."

The local committee of safety were always alert with the proffer and use of their services, and under the direction of Colonel John Daggett their action was concentrated and effective—for example, as with his company he visited and warned the Tory, Nathan Aldis of Franklin, to put a stop to his selling British goods; and on another occasion when he went to Assonet and there took charge of forty stands of arms, as well as of a quantity of ammunition that was in the possession of Tories, at the same time causing nine Tories to swear allegiance to their country.

The town as a whole was on the march Revolutionward. The enthusiasm of the hour was not confined to the few. On the day of the battle of Lexington, sixty minute-men of Attleboro, with Lieutenant Enoch Robinson in command, marched to Roxbury. Thereafter, relay after relay of the patriots were raised and went their way to perform whatsoever service they might be allotted to; such as when a company of sixty-four men enlisted May 1, 1775, under Captain Caleb Richardson for eight months' service in the "Massachusetts line," with their station at Roxbury; and in July, 1776, when Captain Caleb Richardson and Lieutenant Stephen Richardson, both of Attleboro, had charge of the five months' recruits, called the "new levies," and who had enlisted mostly from Attleboro. Then, too, there was the company raised in Norton and Attleboro in September, 1776, under Captain Elisha May, in the regiment of Colonel Thomas Carpenter of Rehoboth, that served at White Plains. An entire company from Attleboro, under command of Captain Stephen Richardson served one month in Spencer's "Secret Expedition" in Rhode Island in October, 1777. Captain Moses Wilmarth served as a private soldier, and Joe Read was wounded while taking part in the expedition with the regiment of Colonel Carey of Middleboro in and about New York.

Quite a number drafted from here took part in the Ticonderoga Expedition in 1776, serving also at Saratoga, while of course there were many individual enlistments from Attleboro in the army throughout the war. Many men from here were drafted to the defence of Rhode Island in 1776, and during the winter, spring and summer of 1777—the Attleboro soldiers generally being stationed at Howland's Ferry, and at Warwick. Colonel Daggett of the Fourth Regiment, which included Attleboro, Mansfield, Norton and Easton, was ordered in August, 1778, to take charge of re-enforcements during General Sullivan's expedition to Rhode Island, that detachment consisting of nine hundred men. Attleboro's quota therein was commanded by Captain Caleb Richardson. Colonel Daggett was also in command of the Bristol County regiment in Spencer's Expedition. The muster rolls and the pay rolls of the Revolution at the State House in Boston contain the lists of all the Attleboro men who served in the Revolu-



tionary War, and these have been reprinted in Hon. John Daggett's "History of Attleboro."

In the Fourth Regiment, of which John Daggett, ancestor of the historian, was colonel, Ephraim Lane was lieutenant-colonel; Isaac Dean was first major; Elkahnah Clapp was second major. Captain Ide's company had fifty-three men, including officers; Captain Richardson's minute company sixty, including officers; Captain Stanley's company fifty-five including officers; Captain Wilmarth's minute company fifty-six men—making a total of 225 men from this town, besides the commander. These were men well fitted for their times and the calls that were made upon leaders and men, and their names are held in high regard for their daring and for their readiness to serve at the critical period in which they lived.

In the War of 1812-1814, the State archives furnish the names of no contingent of soldiery sent from Attleboro as a town; there was practically no action on the part of this town during that war. There is not the slightest doubt that had Attleboro been called upon at that time, her response would have been as generous and unanimous, as upon all other occasions of war in which she shared so heartily.

---

## CHAPTER IV.

### CIVIL AND SPANISH-AMERICAN WARS

"We, the inhabitants of Attleboro, fully appreciating the value of the free institutions under which we have so long lived and prospered, and alive to the dangers which threaten the existence and dismemberment of the Republic, are ever ready to do our part in sustaining those institutions and transmitting them unimpaired to those who shall come after us."

That was the kind of sentiment that enthused the doings of Attleboro town meeting, and that roused the patriotic ardor of the townsmen and women in the days of the threatening of Civil War, when the town unanimously voted to furnish the quota of volunteers for the town, under the call of President Abraham Lincoln. That sentiment increased in its fervor, and the practice of patriotism became a part of the daily life of the people from that time onwards.

When the last of the "Old Guard" in Attleboro and the final remnant of General William A. Streeter Post, No. 145, G. A. R., shall have passed on, there shall always be those who shall keep their Memorial Day and celebrate their times and deeds. While the compilation of this history is in progress, the veteran "Boys in Blue" are rapidly becoming less in number, the gatherings of the Old Seventh and other regiments hereabouts are represented by no more than forty, and the roll-call of the local post adjutant has become a very brief one. All honor to the Attleboro men who were of the tried and proven army of the sixties, for out of the nearly eight thousand inhabitants of the town at the time, there were four hundred men who joined local and other companies in various regiments entering the service of the Union; and it is recorded in the carefully prepared record and list of Major Everett S. Horton that many of these soldiers re-enlisted upon other occasions and in other contingents.



This town was prepared; the conflict was foreseen; and the community's part in the drama was being provided for, by the ready enlistments of the townsmen for service, and by the town government's appropriations, for military purposes—both in order that the soldier go forth well equipped and that the families left behind be cared for. Recruiting offices were opened, and military drill became the leading order of the day. The young men of Attleboro found themselves facing inevitable war, and some time before the declaration of that war, they were forming their first company, outward expression of their patriotic purpose. They themselves assumed the expense of the direction of their drill, when they hired Boston drill-masters to perfect them in their work. Theirs was the nucleus of Company I of the Seventh Massachusetts Volunteers. Yet the town and the selectmen kept pace with them, and in the substantial way of town governments at the north, arranged for their outfit and the first steps of their entering the service. In the town warrant of April 24, 1861, as prepared by the selectmen—H. N. Daggett, A. H. Robinson and Lewis L. Read—one of the articles desired to know what the town might do in behalf of the enlisted men, besides what the United States provision might be for them. Thereupon having arrived at decision in the matter, it was voted on May 3 that the sum of \$10,000 be appropriated for military purposes, and that actively enlisted men be paid from that sum a bounty of fifteen dollars a month in addition to the sum to be paid by the United States; and that each man accepted for service be paid ten dollars a month while drilling, and be furnished with uniform.

And besides these welcome items, the town at a later meeting agreed to furnish the men additional articles of clothing, and the officers, regulation swords, pistols and additional equipment. And so on May 3, the date of that town meeting when funds were provided for the soldiers, Company I's organization for three years was announced, the mustering-in taking place June 15. This was the official roster at the moment: Captain John F. Ashley; First Lieutenant William W. Fisher; Second Lieutenant Charles B. Desjardins; Third Lieutenant Eben L. Sylvester; Sergeants E. E. Kelly, Baylies B. Richards, Prentiss M. Whiting, William H. Wade; Corporals John E. Paige, John N. Hall, James M. Day, Charles W. Snell. There were eighty-five men in this company, besides the officers at this time, but two of whom were not of Attleboro. Meantime, there was no halt in the provision for the men about to go to war, for in September the town treasurer was authorized to borrow a sufficient amount of money to aid those who were dependent upon the enlisted men. In July, 1862, the town voted a bounty of \$100 to volunteers, which sum was later increased to \$200. These men were active in assisting the selectmen in recruiting duty: Willard Blackinton, E. I. Richards, Elisha E. May, L. W. Dean, L. W. Daggett, H. K. W. Allen, Ira M. Conant, Stephen Richardson, Stephen A. Knight. Again, in August of 1862, a bounty of \$100 was voted for nine months enlisted men, at which time the recruiting committee consisted of Frank S. Draper and L. T. Starkey. Thereupon the second company of Attleboro townsmen, the nine months' men, seventy-six in number, exclusive of the commissioned officers, was formed here that year, though Boston claimed them as part of the quota of that city. When this company went

into camp at Boxford, September 18, 1862, the officers elected were as follows: Captain L. T. Starkey; First Lieutenant F. S. Draper; Second Lieutenant E. S. Horton; Sergeants H. A. Burchard, J. H. Godfrey; Corporals H. S. Adams, S. G. Bassett. This company was organized as Company C, Forty-seventh Regular Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, at the muster-in on September 23.

The earliest draft in which the town was concerned took place in July, 1863, with one hundred and twenty-one names drawn from the four hundred and four ballots placed in the box, fifty-three of the names being exempted under the law. November 18 of that year, Captain Everett S. Horton was appointed recruiting officer for the Fifty-eighth Regiment of Infantry, and forty-nine men enlisted from here for that regiment, thirty-seven of them in Company C, with Captain Horton in command.

Thenceforth and to the end of the war, the town government and the townsmen conjointly mapped out and continued their own patriotic enterprises such as those when the town meeting voted to refund money subscribed by the townsfolk for recruiting purposes; when it was voted to raise by taxation a sufficient amount of money to procure the quota of volunteers under the President's call of March 14, 1864; when the selectmen themselves voted to act as recruiting agents in filling that quota, with H. N. Daggett, J. R. Bronson and George D. Hatch to assist them in the work. The number of men from this town who had enlisted for three years' service was 320, and the aggregate bounty paid them was \$20,505.

From the first, the women of Attleboro proved their own deep and unflinching interest in the welfare work of the time, and as early as May 30, 1861, they offered their services in the preparation of clothing for the men departing to the front. Sewing societies were formed in all sections of the town for that purpose, and in North Attleboro they held their meetings in the hall of the Masonic building, and in East Attleboro in Union Hall.

When Company I, before referred to, had attained the desired quota of one hundred and five men, only nine were not of Attleboro. Their drill-ground was on the old "Tom French place," so-called, on the road from Farmers' to Robinsonville; and with the Seventh Regiment they went into camp at Taunton from June 12 to July 12, 1861. Thence they proceeded to Washington, and thereafter they followed and participated in most of the fortunes of the regiment so notably a portion of our country's military story, taking part in all the principal battles. Company I lost its valiant captain, Prentiss M. Whiting, at the battle of Chancellorsville, at which time Lieutenant William Wade took command. In July, 1864, with less than one-half of the original number in ranks, they returned to Attleboro, where they were given that hearty greeting that only the home-town can give its sons. In the spring of 1862 forty-five men from this town enlisted as members of Company C of the Forty-seventh Massachusetts Regiment, with Lemuel T. Starkey as captain, and Everett C. Horton as one of the lieutenants. The company shared in the various regimental fortunes recorded in our military history.

While in the South, Captain Starkey resigned from his company, and he was succeeded in its leadership by Lieutenant Horton, the former continuing in the service as a recruiting officer at Providence. He was the



means of enlisting 1,084 men, both in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Company C was mustered out at Readville September 1, 1862.

Again, forty-two men from Attleboro were mustered into service in the Fifty-eighth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, on February 20, 1864, most of them in Company C, the regiment being mustered out July 14, 1865. Attleboro men in this regiment participated in the battle of the Wilderness, and some of them were confined in southern prison-pens. A number of men from this town were in Companies I and H of the Twenty-fourth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, enlisting in the fall of 1861. They took part in a number of the prominent fights; they were at the sieges of Forts Sumter and Wagner, and in the Morris Island campaign of 1863. The regiment shared with Grant's army the experiences of the fighting during the summer of 1864 and the spring of 1865, and it was among the first of the regiments to enter Richmond after the surrender of General Lee.

There were fifty-four men of Company H, Fourth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, over one-half of the company being men from this town. Enlisting early in August, 1862, they proceeded to camp, and on September 1 they were in Washington, and the regiment joined the Army of the Potomac at Yorktown, June 23, 1863. At the expiration of their service, they were mustered out June 16, 1865.

**Spanish-American War Service.**—At the breaking out of the Spanish-American War, a company of infantry was located in Attleboro, and in June, 1898, by orders from the adjutant general's office, Captain George H. Sykes of that company was directed to recruit it to war strength, which was 106 men. The company was enrolled at Attleboro by the above-named officer, beginning June 22, 1898, and on June 30th proceeded to Boston, where it joined the other companies of the Fifth Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, and was reviewed by the Governor, after which the regiment proceeded to South Framingham, Massachusetts, and went into camp. The company was mustered into the service of the United States as Company I, Fifth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, July 1, 1898, by Captain E. M. Weaver, U. S. A., the officers being: Captain George H. Sykes, First Lieutenant Charles A. Richardson, and Second Lieutenant Edward P. Coleman, and ninety-eight enlisted men. All the officers and a good part of the men were from Attleboro. Remaining in camp until September 11, 1898, the company and regiment left for Middletown, Pennsylvania, arriving there on the twelfth of September, and remaining at Camp Meade until November 16, 1898, when they left for Camp Wetherill, Greenville, S. C., arriving November 18, 1898, remaining there until March 31, 1899, when they were mustered out of the service of the United States. Leaving for Boston on that date the regiment as a unit was reviewed by the Governor after which Company I left for its hometown, Attleboro. The company was in the United States service nine months. Its duty was chiefly training, with provost guard duty at Greenville, S. C. There were no casualties while in service.



## CHAPTER V.

## ATTLEBORO IN THE WORLD WAR

Without any reservation whatever as to the resources of its institutions, its industries, its homes and its individual citizens, native or foreign-born, Attleboro accepted the call and the conditions of the World War. The unanimity of every organization for every wartime movement and need was the conspicuous feature throughout the two years of incessant activity in this small but loyal and devoted city. In its wholesale and generous gifts, in its mutual undertakings for rallies and drives, and in the cordial sympathies exhibited—with creed, class and color forgotten, the citizenship drew nearer together than ever for one cause. We stand in such close proximity to the event at this writing that scores of important happenings must be referred to just now, so vital were they to every household; but as the years bear us farther away from the scene, the leading qualities of the community that will not be forgotten and that will remain steadfast will be those of the city's practical patriotism and zealous team-work that helped save the day. With the unfurling of a new flag on the Common, and the pledging of Attleboro's loyalty to the President, the city, on April 2, 1917, four days preceding the opening of the war between this country and Germany, joined the concourse of New England cities rallying for the World War.

The "Attleboro Sun" gave voice to every occasion at all hours and for all war purposes, on four different occasions printing supplements containing the names of those in service, and it is upon its complete reports of the wartime occurrences here that the essentials of this chapter are based. Flag-raising innumerable at shops, churches and homes, were part of the outward display of the enthusiasm of the beginnings of the city's forward march into action. Company I, opening its recruiting tent on the Common on April 2, with but little effort had enrolled 109 men into the service, the City Council directly voting one thousand dollars to provide for any local emergency defense required, and seven days afterwards, on April 9, the First National Bank wired Secretary McAdoo its subscription of \$100,000 to any war loan. The first call for the formation of the State Guard was issued on April 13, and the local committee of Public Safety took the matter in charge and directed its success. At the outset, in order to encourage the then popular and increasingly necessary enterprise of war gardens, the "Attleboro Sun" at once gave the sum of one hundred dollars and fifty bushels of seed potatoes, and soon afterwards over 1200 citizens registered in the home gardens campaign, 475 children entered the local garden contests, and the City Council itself appropriated \$500 to encourage the work of farmers. So early as April 25, it was announced that one-third of Attleboro's \$3,000 share of the Y. M. C. A. war fund had been raised. Events followed in swift succession thereafter. On April 26, fifty-two men, under the lead of His Honor Mayor Harold E. Sweet, had enrolled themselves in the State Guard here, and two days later one hundred had enrolled, with Joseph H. Williams as their captain.

On May 15, Attleboro was called upon to register 1,687 men in the first draft, and William J. Fountain was the first man in that draft. The

draft registration here totalled 6,253, which included 2,443 on June 5, 1917, 185 in June and August, 1918, and 3,625 on September 12, 1918. There were 388 from here accepted into service at camps. All told, 412 were passed here for general service, thirty-eight were passed as remediables, 152 for limited service, and 252 were disqualified. For dependency, 954 were deferred; for agricultural reasons, twenty; and for industrial reasons, forty-one. On June 22, 1917, diplomas were awarded high school boys who had entered the service, namely: Howard W. Mattison, Charles E. Miller, Francis E. Williams, and Irving B. Robbins. On June 28 the Red Cross campaign raised \$36,150 in the city and \$60,000 in the district.

The big feature of July was the parade of the Fourth Regiment, with the members of Company I and 186 draft registrants in line; and a month afterwards, on August 10, came the farewell supper at the armory, when the company was given a reception, more than 3,000 people being in attendance. On August 17 the company departed for Framingham, when a check for \$1,000 was given them, and the City Council voted \$1,000 for soldiers' dependents. On August 22 it was announced that one hundred local men with Company I had merged with the Ninth Regiment to form the 101st Regiment, and only fourteen men of Company I were left in the Fifth Massachusetts. As these and each quota thereafter left the city they were generously remembered by the citizens.

During September, the Public Safety Committee was at work raising a \$500 local war fund, and on November 20 the Y. M. C. A. raised its local quota of \$10,000 with over \$2,200 coming in at the last meeting. On December 7 it was given out that the K. of C. fund had gone to a higher amount than \$600 for its \$2,500 fund; and December 20 it was \$3,000. It was on December 5 that the post office here started its thrift stamp sale; during Christmas week \$1,108 in war stamps were sold, and up to February 26, 1918, the amount had reached \$7,387. During the first part of 1918, Judge Brady was named head of the local legal advisory board, and Doctors Hewitt, Murphy, Conro and Reed were appointed on the local medical advisory board.

Now it was that Attleboro recorded perhaps the most terrible winter in all its experience, with the mercury ranging from fifteen to twenty degrees below zero the first week of February, with coal and food shortage, and with "heatless, meatless and wheatless" days and lightless nights. The winter was hardly over when on March 9 occurred the \$125,000 fire at the "Daily Sun" plant and the Odd Fellows block. Nevertheless, on April 3 the city celebrated with a parade the ratification of the prohibition amendment by the Legislature; and on May 20 the war chest campaign opened, with an objective of \$125,000, and in two days the sum of \$75,423 was raised; on May 28 the war chest total was given as \$143,000.

On May 31, a service flag was presented to the city by the special aid guard; and on June 26, there occurred a war savings stamps boom, with band concert, when \$45,000 in pledges were received. On July 24, Captain J. H. Williams was made major, and Lieutenant Holbrook was appointed captain of Company M in the State Guard, which company went into camp at Framingham, July 30. Mayor Harold E. Sweet was then second lieutenant of the company. On August 2, the community labor board was appointed, consisting of S. M. Einstein, G. K. Webster and J. H. Crowell.



Then came the influenza, with the closing of the churches and all public gathering-places, and the barring of public funerals; the city battling with eight hundred cases in October. There were eighty-four deaths from influenza here. On Monday, November 11, the city celebrated the announcement of victory, and on November 15 the sum of \$53,055 was given from the war chest to the United War Work fund. The city's own honor roll on the Common was dedicated December 3, and thirty-three gold stars were placed there on December 25.

That wide-awake institution, the Special Aid Society of American Preparedness, opened its Attleboro branch March 29, 1917, the officers being: Chairman, Mrs. Eliza Brown Daggett; vice-chairman, Mrs. Harold E. Sweet; secretary, Mrs. Mary C. Ford; treasurer, Miss Elsie M. Dearborn. This organization became a chapter of the American Red Cross, October 9, 1917, with jurisdiction over this city as well as the towns of Norton and Seekonk, and its membership attained to the number of 5,395. The Special Aid Guard, a military organization of sixty-four young women, was started April 25, 1917, by the chairman, Mrs. Daggett, and by Captain Thomas Williams, which company coöperated with the Red Cross Chapter, throughout. The captain of the Guard was Mrs. Ethel Hollis; first lieutenant, Elizabeth Sherwood; second lieutenant, Mrs. Marion Sykes Flagg. The activities and the chairmen of the various departments were as follows: Knitting, Mrs. E. D. Gilmore, with a total production of 9,054 articles: surgical dressings, Miss Harriette L. Wilmarth, with total of 128,225 articles; hospital supplies and comforts, Miss Elizabeth F. Wilmarth, chairman, total 129,631 articles; sewing, Mrs. James L. Wiggmore, 3,448 hospital and refugee garments, and 800 army kits; drives for Belgian clothing, Mrs. P. J. Cummings, two drives conducted, and 12,000 pounds collected and shipped; nurses, Mrs. P. J. Cummings, sixty nurses enrolled for various needs and calls; motor corps, Mrs. Ralph P. Kent, number enrolled, forty-two; home service, Mayor Harold E. Sweet, total number of calls made upon families of soldiers and sailors, 308; number of workers, eight; educational classes, Mrs. Harold E. Sweet: home nursing, four classes; first aid to injured, three classes, and one class in foods and nutrition; War Chest drive, house-to-house canvass, Mrs. H. M. Daggett; Liberty Loan, women's committee, Mrs. H. M. Daggett. Christmas packages also were sent to men in service overseas in 1917 and 1918; and school children made refugee garments for children, and story-books and puzzles for convalescent soldiers.

From the beginning of events to the close of the war, the committee of Public Safety was at work on the local fields, each member serving without compensation. The original committees as appointed by Mayor Harold E. Sweet, March 26, 1917, being as follows: Executive and finance, chairman, Major George H. Sykes; vice-chairman, Edward A. Sweeney, secretary and treasurer, C. J. McClatchey; E. D. Gilmore, T. E. McCaffrey, Sr., W. I. Tuttle, Hon. Harold E. Sweet. Recruiting committee, chairman, Captain F. L. Northup; O. P. Richardson, Sr., S. M. Holman, Jr., E. W. Rhodes, W. E. Gorman, G. C. Holbrook. Industrial survey, chairman, W. J. Luther; F. T. Chase, J. B. Pineault. Transportation, chairman, C. I. Rogers; J. E. Anderson, J. V. Curran. Home Guard, chairman, J. H. Williams: Captain C. A. Richardson, E. V. Sweet, L. E. Baer, R. T. Hodge.



The principal appointments made by the executive committee included Committee on Food Production and Conservation, chairman, Joseph L. Finberg; Eliza Brown Daggett, Caroline S. Holden, Lewis A. Fales, Samuel Slocumb, Joseph M. McEvoy, Thomas K. Bliss, John E. Anderson. Fuel committee: Chairman, Miles L. Carter; C. J. McClatchey, J. E. Anderson. Soldiers' and Sailors' information, chairman, E. A. Sweeney; Marion L. Sykes, Eliza B. Daggett. Registration of unemployed men and enrolling men for shipyards: Ralph C. Estes, Esq. Patriotic assimilation, liberty chorus and local correspondent Massachusetts Bureau of Immigration, Rev. Charles H. Pennoyer. Non-war construction: M. F. Ashley, Walter O. Lochner, Karl H. Hyde. Merchants' representative for Attleboro, T. E. McCaffrey, Jr. Christmas buying, W. O. Lochner. The office of the chairman, Major George H. Sykes, was a sort of clearing house for war activities in the city, and under the direction of the Public Safety Committee, Company M, Fourteenth Regiment of the State Guard was organized. A petition of the names of those interested in this work was presented to the Governor, and after an inspection, physically, by Dr. D. V. Baker of Brookline, assisted by Doctors Charles S. Holden, Ralph P. Kent, Frederick Murphy, Wilfred E. Rounseville, Joshua W. Clarke and A. C. Conro, and by Colonel E. H. Eldridge of the Inspector General Department of Massachusetts, the men were mustered in for two years, June 26, 1917, as Company 90, Massachusetts State Guard, and at a later date was assigned to the Fourteenth Regiment as Company M. Upon the recommendation of this committee, the following-named officers were appointed: Captain Joseph H. Williams; First Lieutenant George S. Holbrook; Second Lieutenant Maurice A. Wheeler. The members of the company were:

Albert C. Allen, Frank C. Abbott, Albert H. Aubrey, Russell E. Alger, Harry A. Burtwell, Wilfred Berry, Harold D. Baker, Albert J. Brander, Algie G. Burnham, W. E. Byron, Fred H. Brander, Arthur Bates, Sidney C. Burton, Samuel R. Byers, William H. Bates, Charles G. Croteau, Lamont M. Clark, Charles H. Card, Arthur N. Crosby, John J. Coughlin, Daniel B. Cameron, Walter W. Cook, Irving E. Caswell, William F. Durrell, Harry B. Dyer, Walter E. Delano, Joseph Dumont, Lloyd Elliott, Samuel M. Einstein, Stephen L. Ford, Luke B. Farrell, Joseph F. Fuller, Walter E. Gorman, Ernest D. Gilmore, Harry J. Goodale, Edward L. Gowen, Raymond M. Horton, Harold E. Hillman, Robert J. Hewes, Jr., Harry Holbrook, Samuel M. Holman, Jr., Ernest A. Jost, Henry Johnson, Fletcher Kerkhoff, George E. Lincoln, Leonard I. Lamb, Lewis S. Chilson, Donald C. Morse, Michael J. Mulkern, Nelson J. Matthews, David J. McMurray, Frank P. McNamara, Raymond N. Nerney, Robert W. Partington, Ralph H. Parmenter, Lawrence Perry, William P. Reynolds, Daniel J. Spillane, Maurice W. Spillane, Harold E. Sweet, Charles H. Shepard, William E. Sweeney, Jason Sharon, Ezra Smith, George H. Smith, Edward L. Skinner, William H. Smith, Earl L. Townsend, Charles Thomae, Peter Watters, Frank E. Wakefield, Harold C. Walker, R. H. Wilson, Napoleon J. Watters, David Watters.

Major Sykes was appointed inspector of the Fourteenth Regiment, inspecting each company at its home town and at the camp at Framingham. With Edward A. Sweeney also, he was appointed on the State committee for recruiting. At the principal rally held in Attleboro June 20, 1917, a number of men were recruited, who served with great honor in France, taking part in battles and making the supreme sacrifice on fields that are considered to be the turning-point in the war. Under the committee's supervision more than \$2,600 were raised in behalf of the Halifax disaster relief fund in December, 1917. By their direction, the sixteen four-minute

speakers were started upon their rounds, and they provided 180 cars during the eighteen days of the influenza crisis.

The five Liberty Loan campaigns were among the most enlivening events of the war here at home, with every organization and individual in the city as partakers in this most practical feature of citizenry service. Clarence L. Watson was the chairman and Walter O. Lochner secretary of the committees for the different drives, Attleboro exceeding its quota in every drive. The first Liberty Loan campaign here was planned May 24, 1917, and in less than one month, on June 15, it was announced that \$50,000 had been subscribed over the quota of \$900,000, and that the total number of subscribers was 2,064. During the course of this first drive, Mayor Harold E. Sweet opened the "Dollar Down Club," and the directors of the First National Bank bought \$135,000 in bonds, in addition to the bank's \$100,000. The second Liberty Loan campaign began and was carried through with renewed zeal, the work starting on October 4 and ending November 9, with more than 1,800 subscribers, the city taking \$1,340,350, or \$335,000 more than the minimum amount. During this drive the First National Bank took \$100,000 in bonds and the S. O. Bigney Company offered to pay a tenth part of all the bonds its employes purchased. A big rally marked the beginning of the Third Liberty Loan campaign, April 5, 1918, and on May 20 it was announced that there had been 2,200 purchasers of bonds, and that Attleboro was the first city in the county to go over the top, with its final total of \$1,021,600. It was during this third drive that S. M. Einstein offered on April 19 to buy as many bonds as the entire city might purchase on that day, when the First National Bank took \$267,850 in bonds, and the Attleboro Trust Company \$100,000. And, to cap this climax, there were two thousand people in line in the city's Liberty Bond parade. In the "Fighting Fourth" Liberty Loan campaign, the city's quota was set at \$1,168,000 on September 14, and on October 19 it was stated that the city's total was \$1,406,200, the subscription being \$267,850 over the quota. In spite of the epidemic handicaps, the sum of \$828,500 was brought in the first day, and on October 17, the city celebrated with two parades as the quota was reached. In the "Finishing Fifth" loan that began April 18, 1919, the total amount subscribed to May 12 was \$899,550, or \$50,000 over the quota. A victory parade was held with the rally for the loan, April 21, with General McRoberts as the speaker.

The activities of the Attleboro War Chest were a centre of war-time attraction, the organization for that successful effort taking place May 23, 1918, the officials being as follows: President, T. S. Carpenter; vice-president, J. L. Sweet; treasurer, E. H. Brown; secretary, W. O. Lochner; executive board: T. S. Carpenter, chairman; Louis A. Anderson, John J. Coady, Mrs. H. M. Daggett, Louis A. Duquoy, Joseph Finberg, Walter L. Gardner, John J. Hodge, C. P. Keeler, T. O. Mullaly, E. A. Remington, T. G. Sadler, Hon. Harold E. Sweet, J. L. Sweet, Mrs. J. L. Wiggmore, Joseph L. Williams. The disbursing board consisted of Harold E. Sweet, chairman; T. S. Carpenter, John J. Coady, John R. Curry, Louis A. Duquoy, Joseph Finberg, Ernest D. Gilmore, N. G. Larson, T. G. Sadler. Later Judge Philip E. Brady was elected to take the place of John J. Coady, deceased. The campaign committee: T. S. Carpenter, chairman; J. L. Sweet, E. A. Rem-



ington, S. H. Garner, H. M. Fiske, secretary. The object of the association was to provide efficient ways and means for raising funds in this city to help win the war, and to disburse and apportion such funds among the leading war relief agencies. The campaign for funds opened Sunday evening, May 19, with the presentation of Rossini's "Stabat Mater", under the joint auspices of the K. of C. and the Y. M. C. A. The publicity committee, consisting of S. H. Garner, chairman; J. J. Coady, George C. Harrison, William L. King, R. H. Marden, E. D. Rhind brought out many unique stunts in advertising. These committees and their aides waged a most satisfactory campaign; securing pledges and cash amounting to \$144,000, divided among 7,900 people. In 1923, with the War Chest as an inspiration and incentive, a Community Chest was organized—all charitable organizations receiving benefit therefrom in one drive.

During the war, Judge Ralph C. Estes had charge of the four-minute men locally, two appearing weekly at the theatres to give official talks on war topics; the judge also enrolled eighty-two men for the ship-building call, fourteen men for farm work, and thirteen under the compulsory work law. Rev. Charles H. Pennoyer, through the Community Fellowship which he founded, took leading part in the patriotic programme; while victory singing and four-minute singing was led by John L. Gibb. Joseph Finberg was the food administrator here during the war and he was the treasurer of the Liberty Loan drives. The local draft board first consisted of Judge Frederick B. Byram, Dr. C. S. Holden and J. V. Curran. Harold W. Mason succeeded Judge Byram. Samuel Slocomb was chairman of the food production and conservation committee, and head of the United States Employment Bureau here; and he had charge of the community market during the war. Walter O. Lockner was very active during the Liberty Loan drives, and he was secretary of the fourth and fifth drives. Thomas S. Carpenter was chairman of the war chest movement, and he headed the 1919 Red Cross membership drive. Three Y. M. C. A. men went into the Y. service, Henry C. Barden, Dr. Clarence W. Estey, Rev. Elias C. Miller, pastor of the First Baptist Church, and Harold M. Fiske, Y. M. C. A. secretary here. Edward A. Sweeney, member of the draft board, began a compilation of individual war records.

The Public Safety Committee makes the claim of having set up the first honor roll in the country, for early in 1917 each man who enlisted in the service had his name painted on a canvas at the time of enlistment. The Honor Roll that today faces Monument Square is a noteworthy memorial to Attleboro's sons and the brave nurses who performed their part in that war. The work of construction of the memorial was placed in the hands of Major George H. Sykes and Mayor Harold E. Sweet, and the design of the board was the work of Olstin M. Higgins, local architect. The board is seventeen feet long and twelve feet high, and contains racks for 1,376 names. Lettered in gold are the words "City of Attleboro Honor Roll," and surmounting is an American eagle with outstretched wings.

The activities of the Chamber of Commerce during the period of the war were unceasing. That organization conducted the campaign for the first Red Cross war fund; it secured the Public Safety Committee fund; it was given direct responsibility to raise the war camp community recrea-



tion fund; it was sponsor for the war chest campaign here; and it aided industry in many ways, such as in securing restoration of jewelry export privilege, abatement of jewelry tax penalty, etc. The Public Library was in use throughout the war as a community centre, with its Red Cross meetings, surgical dressing classes, and lectures on food conservation. With the help of the high school students, more than 3,000 books were sent through the American Library Association to the soldiers in the different cantonments; and as the local share in the United War drive, the association received \$1,326.27. The schools and churches all aided in every campaign and active war movement.

All honor to any who joined the forces of patriotic endeavor throughout the war; yet there were those who were first to offer aid before this country joined therein. For example, in May, 1916, the women of Pilgrim Unitarian Church, desirous to perform some war relief work, organized as a branch of the surgical dressings committee of the National Civic Federation, whose headquarters was at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston, known specifically as the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital Surgical Dressings Committee. Therefore, a number of the women of this church met at the vestry twice or three times every week from May, 1916, to September, 1918, to fold gauze dressings and to make other hospital supplies. In May, 1917, when the Special Aid Society of American Preparedness was organized in Attleboro, this group became the Pilgrim Unit of the organization and in September, 1917, when the Special Aid was merged into the Attleboro Chapter of the American Red Cross, it continued as Pilgrim Unit of the new organization, receiving financial aid from it, but still working as a branch of the Brigham Hospital committee, its work being slightly different from that of the Red Cross. In the course of time, and as other women became interested, a good deal of work was done outside, so that Pilgrim Unit had three or four branches and several small neighborhood groups, as well as numbers of individuals busy under its direction. Work was prepared and shipped for the women of the neighboring town of Norton. The Dean street branch, the women of St. Joseph's Church, and of the Methodist church specialized in various ways, and the total amount made by them was 150,000 articles. Miss Elizabeth J. Wilmarth was the chairman of this loyal unit.

Besides the devoted work of women in the thousand ways and means in which they participated in making a success of every effort towards victory, there were two women in particular who paid the supreme sacrifice, namely Miss Ruth Holden, who died April 21, 1917, in a small town north of Moscow, Russia, whither she had been sent on duty. She was born in Attleboro, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. C. S. Holden. She was valedictorian of her class at Attleboro high school, and was a graduate of Radcliffe, winner also of Wellesley College fellowship at Newnham College, England. She had volunteered as a nurse in the maternity and relief unit of National (British) Union of Woman Suffrage societies. Mrs. Alice Illingworth Haskell, a volunteer nurse during the influenza epidemic, contracted the disease and died at the Sturdy Memorial Hospital. She was a graduate nurse of the Sturdy Hospital, and lived in Norton.

Hon. Harold E. Sweet was the city's chief executive throughout the

critical period of the strife. He never spared himself; he gave of his time, his talents, his money; and day and night he was on call to be of aid to his city. In its griefs and sorrows both himself and Mrs. Sweet were messengers of mercy and help; and in its rejoicings over victory he was a banner bearer and a leader. The city's first executive was first, indeed, in war, in peace, and in the esteem of his fellow-citizens.

Attleboro's welcome home celebration of October 4, 5 and 6, 1919, was the most memorable affair in which the city as a whole had ever participated, all organizations of whatever name sharing appreciation of the men who represented their home town with such soldierly self sacrifice. Among the events, the direction of which Mayor Brady graciously delegated to his predecessor, former Mayor Sweet, was a grand parade under the command of Major George H. Sykes, and the dedication at Capron Park of Memorial avenue and the nurses' tablet. The pillars on Memorial avenue bear these names of those who gave their lives in the cause: Nurse Ruth Holden, Leroy C. Estee, Howard C. Mattson, Charles O. Fiske, Charles F. Hall, Cyril M. Angell, Willard B. Hoyt, Percy E. Cobb, Jerome Gilbert, Peter Voivin, Edward J. Kelley, Lloyd Inman, Arthur N. Crosby, Albert H. Allen, Charles H. Fontneau, Herbert O. Gilman, Herbert D. Parmenter, Harold Jillson, D. Emory Holman, F. Hubert Ogilvie, Earle I. Brown, Lincoln A. Smith, Joseph Perry, Carlton M. Bliss, Edward Quinton, Harry Atterian, Chester E. Harding, Joseph L. Ritchie, Albert La Rose, Harry L. Boyce, George F. Spencer, Elmer G. Baker, Earl A. Thayer, Ralph V. Kling, Harold V. Patriquin, Lester D. Simmonds.

These events have now become as one generous patriotic deed in the march of the years; and Attleboro looks back upon it all with emotions both of grief and gratitude, but chiefly with thankfulness that her gifts of her sons and all her resources were spontaneous and whole-hearted, and that her loyalty, put to that great test, was unswerving and abundant in its expression.

---

## CHAPTER VI.

### THE MUNICIPALITY OF ATTLEBORO

In the ten years during which Attleboro has been governed as a city, and sharing to the full, as it did, its own weight of the common burden of war and epidemic, the municipality has attained a degree of development in every department that is of par value with any other older city in the commonwealth. The city-making purpose has asserted itself in a general unification of the processes of each department, from the beginning; in the coöperation of public-spirited citizens for the healthful progress of the community, and in the expansion of industries and the city-planning provision. Under the three mayors—Hon. Harold E. Sweet, 1915-19; Hon. Philip E. Brady, 1919-23; and Hon. George A. Sweeney, 1923-25, there have been no lack of proofs of the results of the wisdom of city incorporation, such proofs being demonstrated in the considerate appropriations made to forward the plans of the various institutions of school, charity, park, police





COURT HOUSE—ATTLEBORO





protection, fire prevention, city engineering, city health, to meet the needs of the increasing populace.

Attleboro has schools of a high order, parks in which native and visitor take great pride, a library of unusual excellence, progressive hospitals and banking institutions, a public works administration, a hustling newspaper. Attleboro, with its population of 21,000, has a present total valuation of \$22,917,800, the Massachusetts income tax law of 1916 having taken considerable personal property out of local assessments. The total estimated appropriations for the departments are over \$865,000; the city has a sewer system whose value is placed at \$500,000; it has a \$175,000 high school; the city's own library was paid for by public subscription: its macadamized streets are particularly well kept; the grade crossings have been eliminated and the work paid for; the Chamber of Commerce and City Planning board are practical working institutions. The manufactured produce turned out here in 1920 was \$35,364,707, and the number of people employed in the different industrial establishments was 6,930.

For a period of twelve years, the proposition of establishing the town upon a city basis received discussion, the population of 1902—the year when the matter was first projected—being about 12,000. Then for eight years or thereabouts the subject became dormant. But in 1910 interest in the topic was revived, and the town government appointed a committee of seven to study the matter. Again in 1911 the Company C Association of Attleboro, noted as being the oldest Republican club in the State, with Representative George M. Worrall as leader, gave new life to the proposition. It was during that part of the campaign that former Representative Edward A. Sweeney presented a proposed charter that had been prepared in conjunction with John J. Coady, Esq., and Charles C. Cain, Jr. The town's committee upon examination favored this charter, and in its turn the town meeting of 1912 sent their report to a committee of twenty-six, with Frank I. Babcock, Esq., the town clerk, as chairman; and, with some changes suggested, they too favored the town-city charter as presented. Then were held two special town meetings that began December 30, 1912, whose discussions resulted in placing with the original charter a series of amendments, and the eventual return of the proposition to the committee of twenty-six. Yet again for a time, the question was relegated to a condition of dormancy, to be aroused when Rev. Fred A. Moore, who was at the time secretary of the Board of Trade, pushed the project to the fore. Then came the popular test vote, which resulted in a majority favoring the change, with division as to the commission, one-board city, city manager, and two-board city.

A bill was filed in the 1914 Legislature by Representative Worrall, desiring that Attleboro be made a city, and a charter was drawn by the legislative committee on cities, headed by Senator William A. Bellamy of Taunton, with Representative George M. Worrall, former Representative Edward A. Sweeney, John J. Coady, Esq., and Charles C. Cain, Jr. The Legislature passed the bill, and Governor David I. Walsh signed the law, June 17, 1914, in which the old name of Attleborough was changed to the present form. In Attleboro the city charter was accepted November 3, 1914, by a vote of 1581 to 784. Hon. Harold E. Sweet was elected the

city's first executive, his opponent being J. H. Leedham, Jr., and the result of the vote being 2,326 to 804. Former Town Clerk Frank I. Babcock, Esq., was elected city clerk and treasurer; Charles R. Manchester was elected city collector, and the first city councillors were: At large, Philip E. Brady, Stephen H. Foley, Harry P. Kent, William H. Saart, Charles O. Sweet, Oscar Wolfenden; by wards, William H. Garner, William A. Spier, S. B. Jacobs, Samuel M. Holman, Joseph E. Gaynor. In 1917, Mayor Sweet was reëlected without opposition, receiving 1933 votes. In 1918 Hon. Philip E. Brady was elected mayor over Samuel M. Holman, the result of the vote being 1123 to 1013, with 134 votes for G. M. Gustin. Mayor Brady was reëlected in 1921. The total vote cast for Mayor Brady upon his reëlection was 1662. His opponents and total votes cast for them: William H. Saart, 1362; George A. Sweeney, 1370; Samuel M. Holman, 851; Eliza G. Daggett, 84. Hon. George A. Sweeney was elected third mayor of the city, beginning with the year 1923. Total number of votes cast for Mayor Sweeney, 1893; for other candidates: Harlan A. Allen, 1454; Philip E. Brady, 1433; William H. Saart 1041.

The final reports submitted for the town of Attleboro were those for the year ending December 13, 1914, the last selectmen of the town being Millard F. Ashley, chairman; James W. Orr, James H. Leedham, and W. J. Newman, clerk of the board. Frank I. Babcock, Esq., was town clerk; Charles E. Wilbur, chief of police; Lewis A. Fales, superintendent of schools. Upon the establishment of the city in 1915, the population was 18,840, the total valuation of the community was \$22,345,995—real estate \$13,835,145; personal \$8,510,850.

A résumé of data relating to the incorporation of the town itself, the event of the division of the township, and, in particular, the annals of the more recent and rapidly accumulating matters of chief importance, will find place here. By act of the General Court of Massachusetts the Town of Attleboro was incorporated October 19, 1694, the township territory then including North Attleboro, a part of Wrentham, and of Cumberland, Rhode Island, and with less than ninety settlers therein, all told. A part of the town was annexed to Wrentham, February 18, 1830, and on June 14, 1887, nearly one-half the territory of the town was incorporated as North Attleboro.

Just previous to the division, happenings of leading value that had occurred since the Civil War included the formation in November, 1875, of the "Attleborough Improvement District," within the limits of the Attleboro Water Supply District; the separation of the office of overseer of the poor from that of selectmen and overseers, in March, 1879; the installation of the Providence Telephone Company's service in the office of town clerk in May, 1881; the recognition of the qualification of women to vote for school committee, in April, 1881; the flood of February 13, 1886, with damage estimated at \$50,000.

As to the division of the town, which took place in 1887, that proposition had been frequently presented, and had received intermittent consideration from the town during a period of thirty-two years, the question arising for the first time in town warrant of date October 20, 1855, the article reading thus: "To see if the town will choose a committee to take into



consideration the propriety of making a division of the town, and report at some future meeting," the committee chosen being George Price, Harvey M. Richards, Lyman W. Dean, Joseph W. Capron, Elkanah Briggs.

Historian John Daggett then being upon the scene, gives the processes of the movement toward division in elaborate detail. The gist and principal data concerning the breaking up of the old community relationships is contained in the following abbreviated report of the general transactions: In 1856, the town then having over 5,000 inhabitants, and more than 1,000 voters, J. W. Capron, H. M. Richards and L. W. Dean presented the results of their deliberations, signed by themselves, but which the other members of the committee had not signed, and in which they had drawn a proposed line of demarcation which would leave 2800 inhabitants in the north part and 2600 on the south. When the result thus obtained had been submitted on April 7, the following-named committee was appointed to present a petition to the Legislature, desiring a division of the town: W. D. Whiting, James C. Hidden and Lyman W. Dean. But it is recorded that nothing came of the presentation of the appeal. Again, on March 17, 1884, it was the sense of the town meeting that it would be to the best interests of the town that the town territory be divided, there being 225 votes in favor of the proposition, and 168 against it. Further to survey the entire matter, a committee of thirteen was then appointed, five from the north section, five from the east, and three from the south, as follows: Francis S. Draper, Oscar M. Draper, William H. Rogers, William H. Kling, Joseph G. Barden, William P. Shaw, Edwin A. Robinson, Elisha G. May, Charles E. Bliss, George A. Adams, Philip Brady, George N. Crandall and Everett S. Horton. Twelve days later, on March 29, the committee made their report in favor of the proposition. Thereupon, G. A. Adams, C. E. Bliss, E. G. May, O. M. Draper and J. G. Barden were appointed to bring in their results as to a plan for the proposed new line, which they did on May 17, when by popular vote the subject was again turned down—225 against it, and 180 in its favor—the line then being adjudged as unsatisfactory to the town. Once more, a petition that was signed by O. M. Draper and twenty-five other townsmen, asked the Legislature to make provision for town division, as well as for the incorporation of the northerly portion as a new town. The matter was given a hearing May 10, 1887, and the decision was arrived at July 30, 1887, the town deciding favorably by but twenty-three votes. The entire number of votes cast was 1307—yeas, 665; nays, 642. The first town meeting at Attleboro under the new order was held in the South Main street engine-house, August 13, 1887.

Thenceforth, leading town and city annals aside from those referred to specifically in the Public Utilities department and elsewhere were as follows: The sewer commission was established in 1892. The first extensive fire here took place May 18, 1898, when sixteen buildings were destroyed, with a loss of \$139,345 on buildings, and \$575,900 on their contents. The same year the fire house at Hebronville was built. William H. Goff was appointed superintendent of streets in 1899, and Hugh A. Smith was one of the division superintendents. The Union street fire station was built in 1899. In 1900 Town Clerk and Treasurer John T. Bates died, and Frank I. Babcock, Esq., was appointed to that position, the town's valuation at the

time being \$7,086,709. That year, the Bristol County Street Railway Company was granted the right to lay tracks to the town centre, and work was begun on building Bacon, Allen, Pond and Lord streets. The grade crossings were eliminated by the building of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad bridges in 1906-1907. The new bridge over the Ten Mile river at Olive street was erected in 1907. The town's valuation in 1908 was \$13,543,770, an increase over the previous year of \$938,995, and the tax rate was \$17.50 per \$1,000. The Soldiers' and Sailors' monument on the Common was dedicated June 20. This year John H. Nerney was appointed the town's first chief of police. Hugh A. Smith was made superintendent of streets, and was macadamizing many of the principal streets.

In 1910 the assessed valuation was \$16,896,725, nearly \$1,000,000 over the previous year. The new bridge over Ten Mile river on County street was erected. Charles E. Wilbur was appointed chief of police. The population of the town at this time was 16,215. During the past ten years fifty-five new streets had been accepted by the town. August 1, 1913, the filter beds of the sewer department were put into actual service. Fire stations were built in South Attleboro and on South Main street. In 1915 the city health department established the local tuberculosis dispensary at the Sturdy Memorial hospital. The fire of December 12, 1917, destroyed the Horton, Pierce and Sanford blocks, with their contents, and great damage was done to Bates, Monroe, Gifford, Sturdy and Brownell blocks, and the Smith, Dexter and Jacobs buildings and other structures on Union and Pine streets, the fire loss of the year totalling \$210,503.47.

The city's total payments on outstanding obligations for the first two years as a city amounted to \$164,200. The sinking funds had increased \$18,403.79, and there was a reduction in the net debt of \$183,003.79. The last payment of the assessment for the grade crossing abolition was made, the total amount having been \$108,081.75. In 1916 a combination hose and chemical wagon was placed in the Union street fire station, with motor chassis, thus reducing the horse-drawn apparatus at this time to three.

It was during 1918, that the city purchased that portion of the track and fixtures of the Taunton and Pawtucket street railway between Attleboro and Briggs Corner, and entered into an agreement with the Interstate Consolidated Street Railway Company to operate the line on a cost basis. This year an Ahrens-Fox combination hose and pump engine was added to the equipment of the fire department. The health department during the period of the epidemic this year divided the city into six districts, with Mrs. Helen M. Cummings in full charge of all nurses and volunteer aids. Every doctor in town worked to the limit of his capacity, aided by volunteer nurses and general helpers, the Sturdy Memorial Hospital and the diet kitchen. Mrs. Cummings, as head of the Attleboro nursing committee, performed a wonderful work, assisted throughout the disaster by scores of valiant men and women. On March 9 this year, occurred the fire that destroyed part of the Odd Fellows' building and the Sun plant, with loss of \$125,000.

The year 1919, Hon. Philip E. Brady mayor, was that of the elaborate welcome home extended by the city to all who had participated in the



World War service; the dedication of Memorial avenue at Capron Park; the great parade of October 6. This year the Municipal Council assumed its share of the control of the Norton, Taunton and Attleboro street railway. The death occurred of Benjamin P. King, eighteen years a member of the Board of Overseers of the Poor.

The population of the city in 1920 was 19,700, the total valuation then being placed at \$22,106,770; the borrowing capacity of the municipality, \$222,438.55. Edmond H. Gingras was appointed chief of police, and the department was at this time well motorized for the prevention of excessive speeding of automobiles. Joseph V. Curran (appointed postmaster in 1923) was chairman of the Board of Overseers of the Poor, and his colleagues were William L. Elliott and Mrs. E. Grace King.

Assessors were Walter J. Newman, Thomas E. McCaffrey and Harry E. Carpenter. Superintendent of Public Works was John O. Taber, Jr. City Forester W. E. S. Smith. The West Street bridge was built over Ten Mile river. In 1921, Fire Chief Hiram E. Packard voluntarily resigned from duty after fifty years of service, leaving a fully motorized fire department; and Fred A. Clark was appointed chief.

The valuation in 1921 was: real estate \$15,861,665; personal \$7,389,535. The city's tax rate had been advanced \$6.40 over 1920, making it in 1921, \$32.40. The total net debt was \$939,487.30, and the borrowing capacity was \$214,989.81. Four acres of land in the centre of the city were purchased as a site for the proposed City Hall. Two new concrete bridges were built on Mechanic street. During 1921 the city appropriated \$5,000 towards putting the Hayward field in condition for sports, as contemplated by the donor, Hon. Harold E. Sweet. The charity department appropriation was more than \$26,000. The deaths occurred of Everett S. Capron, one of the donors of Capron Park, in his 89th year; Charles Phillips, for years a selectman, in his 90th year; and Mark E. Rowe, public library trustee, in his 73rd year. Herman N. Collins was elected assessor.

While Attleboro is thus making substantial progress as a municipality, its population takes a commensurate pride in its homes and industries, both long established. Many of the most pleasing residences are built upon or near old foundations—descendants of many early comers yet remain. Yet, as in the history of all communities, the newcomer is establishing his home for his own generations, adding to the numbers in the skilled industry, and sharing in the problems of the growing city.

---

## CHAPTER VII.

### THE PUBLIC SCHOOL INTERESTS

For the period of more than two centuries, Attleboro has maintained schools of the district and public systems, according to the usage of old New England settlements, wherever found. It may well be said of this city, as of all others of colonial origin, that along with the provision of means for religious worship, the opportunity for children to "read, write and cypher," and, within a very short period, to study higher branches.



such as Latin, philosophy and history, was secured by the establishment of the beginnings of the public school system.

The first record in relation to schools here after the incorporation of the town, is that of March 6, 1716, and is as follows: "It was voted and agreed upon that Deacon Daggett should be schoolmaster." And at a town meeting in the latter part of that year, Josiah Jacques was hired as schoolmaster, the school then being kept in the south part of the town. It is evident that the schools were held at the homes of the residents for a century thereafter. Mr. Jacques received £20 for his services; and during 1717, Thomas Cathcart of Martha's Vineyard came here to teach, he receiving £30. In 1718 town meeting decided that school should be kept seven months at a time in one quarter of the town, when H. Peck, Ensigns Whipple and Read, John Lovell and Samuel Day were appointed to divide the town into quarters for that purpose. No record has been found of any report of that committee; and it was not until 1737 that it is known that the town was actually divided into four districts, namely, northwest, southwest, northeast, southeast. George West was the schoolmaster in 1724, 1726, 1728 and 1732, and his wages varied from thirty to fifty pounds. In 1735-1736 the town voted not to hire a schoolmaster; but schoolmasters soon after that time were John Gratrax, Benjamin Ide, and John Robbins, Jr., later town clerk.

The first step towards the district system was that contained in the vote of the town on January 14, 1745, that the town be divided into five parts, and that the "Gore" be one part; and that the "school be kept in two places, six months each in each part, during the next two years and six months." Another important action that occurred at this time was the result of the vote "to raise thirty pounds old tenor money to encourage ye keeping of women schools." And that is all that the records tell us of such schools.

In November, 1771, the town voted to choose a committee to divide the town into twelve parts, and appoint the places where the school should be kept, and so the committee decided to divide the town into twelve parts. Among the schoolmasters of that period were Elisha May, a friend of Washington, who kept school here in 1768. Ephraim Starkweather kept grammar school in 1769. He was a member of the Committee of Correspondence in Rehoboth at the beginning of the Revolution, and was a representative to the General Court in 1775 and 1778, and was senator from Rehoboth three years. Again, in 1787, the town meeting voted to divide the town into twenty parts; but before that vote could be acted upon, it was voted to let the quarters remain as they were, and to divide the school money among the quarters according to the number of children in the town from four to sixteen years old, this being the first time school money was apportioned according to the number of pupils in a district. The town was actually divided into twenty parts in 1789, an arrangement that continued until 1808, after which the town was districted into eighteen districts. The first record of a movement made to arrange for the building of a school-house was in 1804, when the town voted authority to the quarters to raise money to build houses, to select the places whereon to build, and to act upon any other matter that might be deemed beneficial to the districts and

in accordance with law. The Old Town district first made use of the authority given; the district at the Falls followed suit, and after 1808, the usage became general, the town itself annually electing prudential committees for the districts. Town school committees were active at this time, also. A text-book committee was chosen in 1804 to supervise the books used in the schools. In 1829, the prudential committee was elected by each district instead of by the town.

So far as is recorded, the first private school in town was the Franklin school, established in 1802 "for the promotion of virtue and the instruction of youth of each sex in such languages and such branches of the arts and sciences as the said trustees may from time to time think expedient, and within the income and funds of said school to support." The first meeting in the new schoolhouse was held October 4, 1802. Peter Thacher was elected president, Joshua Bassett secretary, and Noah Blandin treasurer. In 1824 the building became the property of District No. 18. A classical school was kept in the early part of that century in the south part of the town; and between 1832 and 1836 a private school was kept in North Attleboro by Miss Lurinda Forbush. North Attleboro academy was founded in 1833 and a two-story building erected at the corner of Washington and Orne streets. The principals were: Isaac Perkins to 1845; John C. Boram to 1846; Henry F. Lane to about 1848; Rev. J. D. Pierce to 1850; Henry Rice to 1852, when the existence of the building as an academy came to a close. East Attleboro academy was opened in its new building in 1842, with John C. Dodge, Jonathan Crane, Jonathan Bliss, Samuel Carpenter, W. Blackinton, P. Savery, O. S. Balcom, John Daggett and J. W. Capron as its promoters. The teachers in this school were Zwinglius Grover, Rev. William M. Thayer, Philip C. Knapp, John C. Boram, Leonard Walker and James M. Bailey.

The year 1867 was a remarkable one in local school history, for in that year it was voted to establish high schools both at North and East Attleboro, and that the sum of \$3,000 be appropriated to their support, the high school then meeting in other schoolhouses. But in 1881 and 1882, the East and North high schoolhouses were erected at a cost of over \$31,000. The high school principals of the East or the present Attleboro high school have been during the first five years as follows: Calvin G. Hill, William Wilkins, A. F. Wood, Jr.; 1872-1885, Joseph Osmond Tiffany; May to December, 1885, J. H. Lord; W. C. Hobbs, January, 1886, to June, 1890, with the exception of July, 1889, when C. E. Stevens was the principal; O. L. Beveridge, June, 1890, to October, 1894; Victor V. Thompson, October, 1894-June, 1895; Winifred S. Ross, September 1895 to January, 1897; Charles P. Barnes, January, 1897, to September, 1899; Wilbur D. Gilpatric, September, 1899, to June, 1908; Fred U. Ward, September, 1908, to June, 1910; Harry E. Pratt, September, 1910, to June, 1911; Hal R. Eaton, September 5, 1911, to June 25, 1915; William B. Alexander, September, 1915, to April 6, 1917; Charles J. Peterson, April 23, 1917, to April 11, 1919; James F. Smith, April 21, 1919, to November 24, 1920; Charles O. Dalrymple, January 3, 1921—.

The school committee in 1883 recommended an appropriation for the salary of a superintendent of schools, and it was on January 1, 1883, also



that the old district system was abolished in this State. The superintendents in this town and city have been: Francis E. Burnette, 1883; Andrew W. Edson, 1884; Henry W. Maxson, October, 1885; Joseph O. Tiffany, April, 1888; William Kelly, August, 1899; Lewis A. Fales, August, 1905. In 1908 Charles E. Bliss, twelve years chairman of the school board, retired. This year the school savings bank was introduced into Attleboro schools; and the school paper, the "Blue Owl," was first published by high school pupils. The Robinson school building was burned January 15. Warren Parker was appointed attendance officer for all the schools. He had been truant officer for the schools in the centre since 1903.

With the opening of the new high school building in March, 1914, constructed at a cost of \$175,000, a new era began in the educational life of the city. The first recommendation for a new high school building made by the school committee had been under the leadership of the chairman, Charles E. Bliss, in 1901. Hal. R. Eaton was the new principal at the opening of the building. Thereafter the eighth grades gathered in the old high school building, now known as the Bank street grammar school; and M. P. Dutton, principal of the Bliss school was appointed principal of the Bank street school. There were then 3372 school children in the twenty school buildings of the city, with ninety-one teachers. Two classes were started in the industrial school; and the penny savings, begun in 1907, then amounted to \$27,158.11. The amount asked for the maintenance of the public schools at this time was \$113,400. A class in American citizenship was started in 1916. One hundred and twenty-seven pupils were interested in having gardens at home, money prizes being offered by the Chamber of Commerce; and the "Attleboro Sun" offered a trip to the National Dairy show at Springfield for the six pupils having the best gardens. Mrs. O. C. Chatterton, forty-four years a teacher in the Attleboro public schools, died September 14, 1916.

Activities in the schools in 1917 reflected the war conditions, from the raising of a flag on the Common, April 2, to the sale of Red Cross seals, December 14 to 21. An exhibition of garden products by the school children was held at the Bliss school, October 11, and Mayor Harold E. Sweet awarded prizes therefor at the high school, October 15. School clinics were begun on May 7 by Dr. George L. Wallace, of the State School at Wrentham. The principal of the high school was Charles J. Peterson. Sixty of the public school teachers who had organized a reading club, were meeting once in two weeks to study some book along professional lines. Arrangements were made for John Laing Gibb, who came to Attleboro schools in 1902, to devote his whole time to teaching music in the schools, by means of the Richardson school fund. He had organized the high school orchestra, and many grammar school choruses; and through the war he had charge of the community chorus. Though manual training had been in vogue in the schools since 1910 under the direction of William F. Eastwood, and the teachers themselves had taught sewing since 1907, in 1919 the town voted to provide manual training for boys of the eighth grade, and to appoint a teacher of sewing for girls of grades five, six, seven and eight. Therefore, systematic instruction in physical training was begun in 1920 in the central schools by H. H. Reinhardt, physical director at the Y. M. C. A., and continued two years. Later the work was extended to all schools, under the



direction of Lester H. Purvere; and in 1922 the work was divided, with Ray Cooney in charge of the physical instruction at the grades and the track team at the high school, and a teacher at the high school in charge of sports and games.

It was on December 7, 1920, that the city took title from the Fidelity Trust Company in the Peck homestead property, North Main and Sanford streets, and as part of the same transaction purchased the reversionary interest in the Sanford street school lot, used since 1867 for school purposes, under a lease for ninety-nine years; and also all the outstanding shares of stock in the Academy building, erected in 1842 by the proprietors of the Attleboro Academy. The city now has absolute title to all this property.

The school census of 1920 was 4132, the high school enrollment that year being 462. The Continuation School was established that year in the Bank street school building, with eighth grade enrollment of 187. Milton P. Dutton was the director. The Hebronville Community Center was very popular and progressive. Captain Charles T. Crossman was appointed attendance officer in 1921.

The Joseph Finberg Educational Fund was established in 1921 for the benefit of graduates of the Attleboro High School. Each year a deserving graduate may be granted a loan from this fund to assist him in continuing his education in some higher institution of learning. In considering applicants, not only the scholarship, but the ability, intelligence and integrity of the applicant is reckoned.

The dates of the erection of the public school buildings in Attleboro, as compiled by Miss Alice Wetherell, secretary to the superintendent, are as follows: Sanford Street, the Academy, 1842; the Middle school, 1874; the grammar school, 1888; South Attleboro school, 1884; Hebronville school, 1884; Bank street school, 1882—enlarged 1903; Carpenter street school, 1894; Plat school, 1895; Capron school, 1896; Pleasant street school, 1898; Dodgeville school, 1900; Farmers' school, West street, 1901; Richardson school, 1901; Briggs Corner school, 1905; Washington school, 1908; Charles E. Bliss school, 1909; Tiffany school, 1911; High school, 1914.

In May, 1921, the Chamber of Commerce presented to the high school a bronze tablet inscribed with the names of the valedictorians of the graduating classes since 1914, when the first class graduated from the new building.

The average membership in the schools in 1923 was 3628, the enrollment at the high school in September, 1922, having been 616. The number of teachers and supervisors in the twenty-four schools was 133, and the estimated expenses for the maintenance of the schools was \$280,679. Evening schools are being conducted at the Tiffany and the high school buildings, and school buildings in various parts of the city are in use for neighborhood meetings under the auspices of the Attleboro Community Fellowship. The Continuation School for unemployed minors between the ages of fourteen and sixteen years is a fixed institution, the enrollment for December, 1922, being 188; and the physical training department of the schools is making steady progress. The summer schools at Hebron and Dodgeville in 1922 had an average attendance of 155.

**Teachers' Association.**—For more than twenty years the public school teachers of Attleboro have been increasingly active in their work and plans for the schools and their organization, and in 1923, with a membership of more than one hundred, their association is the one organization of the kind in this section of the county. The first meeting of the present association was held October 9, 1907, and the membership at that time was seventy-seven. The officers: President, Mrs. O. Cora Chatterton; secretary, Miss Mary E. McManus; treasurer, Miss Alice Macomber. Their constitution prepared at that time expressed the following sentiment of the association: "We, the teachers of Attleboro, cherishing a sense of the importance of cultivating a spirit of loyalty and benevolence among the members of our progressive organization, and being convinced that well-constituted societies are the best means of promoting the social life, and of lessening the suffering attendant upon sickness, for the furtherance of these objects, do constitute ourselves an association." In the early part of the century, in 1900 or thereabouts, a Teachers' Social Union was formed, their annual banquet having been held in February, 1903, and this doubtless was the nucleus of the present association.

---

## CHAPTER VIII.

### CHURCHES IN ATTLEBORO

Most of the varying expressions of religious beliefs are represented in Attleboro. The older church organizations are in the old town; but thirty-seven years after the call was first given a minister to the First Congregational church, or in 1743, the Second parish pastor took up his duties here. From that time onwards the various churches, Protestant and Catholic and Jewish, have arrived at the call of their increasing flocks. The following survey of the churches outlines their story in this section of the Attleboros, so far as response was made to the requests for information:

**Congregational Churches.**—The east parish was divided from the western section of the town April 7, 1743, because of the inconvenience to many of the parish in attending public worship at great distance from their homes. The first record of an attempt to build a meetinghouse in this part of the town was that of June 20, 1743, and Rev. Peter Thacher, not then ordained, commenced to preach here August 20, 1743. He was ordained and settled here November 30, 1748. One hundred and fifty pounds was appropriated for the meetinghouse begun in the autumn of 1743, but not completed for several years later. Mr. Thacher continued as pastor until October 26, 1784. He died September 13, 1785, in the seventieth year of his age. He was a native of Middleboro, and graduate of Harvard College. The pulpit was supplied by several ministers before the ordination of Rev. Ebenezer Lazell of Bridgewater, a graduate of Brown University, who preached his first sermon here November 21, 1792. He remained until January 3, 1797, and was succeeded by Rev. Nathan Holman, graduate of Brown University in 1797. He was ordained here October 15, 1800, and he re-



mained until May 22, 1821; he died at the age of seventy-five years, October 28, 1844. Rev. John Ferguson, a native of Scotland, succeeded Rev. Mr. Holman, and was ordained here February 27, 1822. His ministry at second Congregational Church was closed March 25, 1835, and he died at Whately, Mass., November 11, 1858. While he was pastor, a parsonage was built. The second meetinghouse was built in 1825. Rev. Jonathan Crane succeeded Rev. Mr. Ferguson as pastor, being ordained October 30, 1836, his pastorate continuing until June 12, 1854.

Rev. Charles D. Lothrop was the next settled minister for this parish. A graduate of Amherst College and Andover Theological Seminary, he was installed as pastor December 14, 1854, and remained until April 29, 1857. There was no settled minister here for about nine years. Rev. Mr. Belden was the next pastor, who was here during the period of the Civil War. Rev. Francis N. Peloubet, graduate of Williams College and Bangor Theological Seminary, was pastor of the church from June 26, 1866, to October 19, 1871; Rev. Samuel Bell from December 18, 1872, to October 28, 1878; Rev. William A. Spalding from September 11, 1879, to November 19, 1883. Rev. Walter Barton, graduate of Amherst College and the Connecticut Theological Institution, began his ministry here in March, 1884. He resigned in September, 1893. Rev. E. L. House was installed January 31, 1894, and concluded his pastorate December 21, 1898. Rev. Wilson S. Fritch was installed December 12, 1878, and his pastorate was brought to a close December 27, 1900. The pastorate of Rev. J. Lee Mitchell, Ph. D., began April 21, 1901. The new church was dedicated May 22, 1904.

Bethany Chapel at South Attleboro had its organized beginning in a Sunday school that was begun in 1874 by Rev. John Whitehill, pastor of the First Congregational Church, assisted by members of his parish. On October 15, 1886, a society was organized as the Bethany Chapel Association, its president being William Coupé, who gave land for the parish; William F. Shaw, vice-president; Damon A. White, secretary and treasurer; and nine trustees. A chapel was built at a cost of \$3,900, the value of both chapel and land being \$5,000. The chapel dedication took place April 14, 1887. Rev. James C. Alvord was the pastor in 1922.

**Methodist Episcopal Churches.**—On November 24, 1865, writes Frederick Lincoln, historian of this church, Dr. D. H. Ela, then pastor of the M. E. Church in Pawtucket, and James Davis, a prominent layman of the same church, established a meeting at Attleboro. A hall was hired, and on November 26, 1865, Rev. D. H. Ela preached the first sermon, and this service gave so much encouragement that Union Hall was hired for future meetings. Among the first members who formed this church were Ezra Arnold and daughter, E. D. Parmenter and Emily Dean, later his wife. Freeman Robbins and wife, Delia Pierce, Eliza A. Clark, Harriet A. Engley, and Ellen M. Morrison. Rev. Mr. Ela continued to preach here, and was greatly aided in his missionary work by Rev. Isaac J. Lansing, then a young man fitting for the ministry; also by James Davis, Daniel B. Ingraham, and other members of the church at Pawtucket. On Sunday, December 3, 1865, a Sunday school of forty members was formed, with James Davis as superintendent and Ezra Arnold as assistant. At the expiration



of four months, Mr. Arnold left the State, and Freeman Robbins was chosen in his place. The pulpit was supplied every Sabbath until the next conference, by Rev. Isaac J. Lansing. December 6, prayer meeting was held at Union Hall, and on the 16th the first class meeting convened at Freeman Robbins' house, with thirteen present. March 11, 1866, a formal organization was made with nineteen members, and the church was called "Davis Centenary M. E. Church." At the conference held in Bristol in March, 1866, Attleboro applied for a minister, and Alexander Anderson became by appointment the regular pastor. Ground was broken for the church in October, 1866, and November 26 the cornerstone was laid. The vestry was occupied on the first Sabbath in June, 1867, and on February 23, 1869, the church was dedicated, Rev. Mark Trafton, D. D., preaching the sermon. The church was built at a cost of \$17,000, seven thousand of which was provided for, leaving a debt of some \$10,000. The building was completed in a little less than three years from the date of the laying of the cornerstone, the congregation worshipping a part of the time in the vestry.

In May, 1873, Rev. E. D. Hall, together with Mr. and Mrs. Freeman Robbins and Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Luther, formed a mission at Lane's Station, since called Chartley. There a Sunday school was formed, and Mr. Robbins was chosen superintendent. A church was shortly afterwards organized, with nine members. During the pastorate there of Rev. J. C. Gowan, a chapel was built at a cost of \$1,500, and dedicated February 3, 1876, free of debt.

At the Centenary Church the ladies of the society began the Home Mission April 27, 1866, and the society called the Gleaners, organized for the purpose of providing money for the church organ, raised \$1,650. During the pastorate of Rev. J. A. L. Rich, the debt upon the church was removed, and many former pastors were present at the jubilee reunion November 20 and 21, 1883. About a month after the church had been freed from debt, the church building was totally destroyed by fire. The people rallied undismayed, under the leadership of Rev. Mr. Rich, and the new building was completed in March, 1885, at a cost of about \$25,000, Bishop Foss preaching the dedicatory sermon. The parsonage was built during the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Povey. The annual conference was entertained here in the spring of 1883. Rev. V. V. Sawyer was the pastor in 1923.

April 4, 1875, is the date of the organization of the Hebronville Methodist Episcopal church, in Hebron Hall, the headquarters for a number of years. The church was dedicated April 5, 1883, the cost of the edifice being \$12,000. The first pastor was Rev. John Q. Adams, 1875. Rev. Samuel F. Maine was the pastor in 1922.

The African M. E. Church was established in 1871, in which year a committee consisting of Isaac R. Johnson, John Williams and Israel Jackson purchased land of Dr. J. M. Solomon where the first church building was erected. The building was burned and a new church building has since been built. The first pastor was Rev. R. H. G. Dyson. Rev. Jeffrey B. Wallace was pastor in 1922.

**Murray Universalist Church.**—The Universalist doctrine had its adherents and well-wishers in the town of Attleboro, all through the early part of the last century, but no positive move was made to establish a Uni-

versalist church in this part of the town until the year 1875. It was on June 19 that year, that the Murray Universalist parish was organized, due to the activity of Charles E. Hayward, the first services under the direction of this society being held at Union Hall. The second important step was taken on December 16, 1875, when the upper part of the Edwin J. Horton building on North Main street was dedicated as Murray Chapel, and there services were held for nearly a decade. Rev. Franklin C. Flint officiated as the first pastor of the society in the chapel, from November, 1875, until his death, which took place March 23, 1876. He was succeeded from September, 1876, to July, 1878, by Rev. Alphonso E. White. Rev. Thomas W. Illman, who was ordained at Saugus near Lynn, in 1876, began to officiate here October 1, 1878, and it was while he was here that two events of special importance took place, namely, the purchase in May, 1881, of the lot on South Main street for \$2,000, and the incorporation of the society May 11 as the Murray Universalist Society, in honor of Rev. John Murray, founder of the denomination in this country. Mr. Illman remained as pastor until May 1, 1884, and he was succeeded September 14, 1884, by Rev. Hiram E. Philbrook.

December 11, 1884, the cornerstone of the new church building was laid; and in July, 1885, the vestry was ready for occupancy. November 15 that year, the auditorium was occupied for the first time. The building committee for the new church consisted of J. Lyman Sweet, chairman; Rev. Thomas W. Illman (his place being taken subsequently by Rev. Hiram A. Philbrook); W. R. Cobb, Charles E. Hayward, L. J. Lamb and E. O. Richardson; and the building and land cost \$16,000. The building was dedicated May 11, 1887, and it was improved and enlarged by the addition of Murray Hall in 1908. The pastors since Mr. Philbrook have been as follows: Revs. Jabez N. Emery, June 3, 1888 to October 1, 1891; Daniel L. Fisher, 1891-93; A. Francis Walch, 1893-95; James Henry Holden, September 1, 1895, to April 30, 1903; Hendrick Vossema, September 13, 1904, to December 2, 1908; Fred Atkins Moore, May 17, 1909, to March, 1914; Charles Huntington Pennoyer, since September 1, 1914.

**All Saints' Episcopal Church.**—On Sunday, July 6, 1890, Rev. J. B. Wicks, general missionary of the Diocese of Massachusetts, held a service in the G. A. R. Hall, the choir from Grace Church, North Attleboro, assisting in the service. About fifty persons were present at this meeting. A few interested in the holding of church services remained and a meeting was called for the following Wednesday, when it was decided to ask Rev. George E. Osgood to conduct a service on the following Sunday. On July 23, another meeting of those interested in forming a society was held and a temporary organization was effected as follows: George F. Coe, chairman; W. H. Wade, treasurer; George K. Roberts, secretary. On August 26 a meeting was called, when it was voted to invite Rev. George E. Osgood to hold regular Sunday services for three months in Royal Arcanum Hall. At the close of this period Mr. Osgood was asked to become minister in charge of the mission then known as "All Saints' Mission." In September, 1891, the establishment of a mission seeming an assured matter it was deemed best to secure a hall for its permanent use. Finally a hall in the Horton block in North Main street was leased for two years, suitably fitted



up and the first service held there on Sunday, February 14, 1892. Services were held in this hall until the building of the present church building in 1900. The first resident rector was the Rev. Isaac T. Bagnall, who was followed by Rev. James L. Tryon, Rev. Albert Crabtree, Rev. R. J. Mooney, Rev. Alwin E. Worman. The membership in 1923 was 350. The church is a flourishing organization, with a boy choir and a number of societies for carrying on church work. The church was consecrated on November 4, 1906, by Rt. Rev. William Lawrence, D. D.

**Pilgrim Unitarian Church.**—Pilgrim Church was organized January 24, 1901, as an independent religious society, the by-laws of the church stating that the aim of the society shall be to promote reasonable, progressive, practical and fervent religion; the government shall be democratic; the spiritual methods shall be liberal and positive, and in harmony with the covenant of the church, which is as follows: "We join ourselves by a covenant of the Lord into a church estate in the fellowship of the gospel, to walk in all His ways, made known or to be made known unto us, according to our best endeavor, whatsoever it may cost us, the Lord assisting us." This, in essential, is the story of the church here: The first audiences met at the Bates Opera House, and crowded that hall twice every Sunday. Rev. Wilson S. Fritch, who for several years previous to the close of 1900 was pastor of the local Congregational church, was the minister. Finding himself gradually growing out of sympathy with the thought of his church, he resigned in the fall of 1900, with the intention of entering a more liberal field outside of Attleboro. But he was persuaded to remain by a number of prominent citizens, and the Bates Opera House was engaged for services. Mr. Fritch was a brilliant preacher, and on account of his scholarly attainments an appreciative set of resolutions was passed in his behalf by his people, in which Mr. Fritch was pledged their hearty support. He later became interested in the stage, and since made a success on the lecture platform.

Mr. Fritch resigned October 29, 1904. In January, 1905, Rev. John H. Applebee was called from the First Parish, Unitarian Church, West Roxbury, to be the minister. Meantime, while there was no settled minister, the pulpit had been supplied by the American Unitarian Association, which association this church joined in 1910. During the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Applebee the church prospered, the Woman's Alliance, the Men's Club and the Young People's Union were organized, and these have been active since. In 1907 the church at the corner of North Main and Peck streets was built, and from that time onwards the society had their church home. In October, 1910, Rev. Mr. Applebee resigned to accept a call to the Unitarian church at Syracuse, New York. In January, 1911, Rev. Thomas Jay Homer came from Melrose, this State, and he remained eight years. During the World War the pastor and people were put to the test; nearly all the young men went into the war service, and the majority of the men and women were engaged in some kind of war work. During the winter of 1918 the coal situation became so serious a matter that this church united in service with the Murray Universalist Church for a few months. In December of that year, Rev. Mr. Homer accepted a call to Manchester, New Hampshire, and in September Rev. Manley B. Townsend came



from Nashua, New Hampshire, to be the minister. He remained until March, 1922; and in May a call was extended to Rev. Charles W. Porter J. Shirley of Geneseo, Illinois, and he assumed this pastorate the following September. Since that time a parsonage has been purchased, and the church is in every way prosperous.

**Catholic Churches.**—The Catholic population in the central part of the town had so increased in the early eighties that the first branch of St. Mary's was established in 1883. Right Rev. Bishop Thomas F. Hendricks set about the organization of this parish, Rev. Father Mongan to that date having celebrated the mass in the Union Hall. Rev. John O'Connell, then curate of the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Providence, was appointed the first regular pastor of St. John's parish in Attleboro, his first mass being said here January 6, 1883. The estate of the late F. D. Bliss on North Main street was purchased, and the house standing thereon made use of as the rectory. September 17, 1883, the cornerstone of the present church was laid, the sermon for the occasion being preached by Rev. Father J. C. Walsh, of the Holy Communion Church, Providence. The window over the high altar is the gift of Rev. Father James Murphy, of St. Theresa Church of Providence; the side windows are gifts of various members of the church; the high altar was presented by the congregation, and the side altars by friends of the parish. The lot opposite the church was purchased by P. M. Carpenter in 1891, and the present rectory built at a cost of \$6,000. The church property cost about \$25,000. The dedication of the church took place September 22, 1885, the Right Rev. Bishop Hendricks having charge of the service. Soon after the death of Father O'Connell in 1910, Rev. Father David F. Sheedy was appointed to this pastorate.

There were few Catholics living in Dodgeville before 1840, and about that year the Dodges began to employ some Irish help in their factory. From 1860 the Catholics increased. When Father Delaney relinquished his work at the Attleboros in 1856, Father Gilleck took charge of the Hebronville Mission, St. Mary's. In May, 1872, the Hebronville Manufacturing Company bought a large piece of land, which they donated to the Catholics, with the stipulation that it should be used only for church or burial purposes. Mass was said in the unfinished basement for the first time on Christmas Day, 1875. In 1880 this mission was detached from North Attleboro and given to St. Joseph's parish, Pawtucket, and mass was said every Sunday from that time on. Rev. Father P. S. McGee was appointed pastor in 1885, and in 1894 he built a parochial residence.

St. Stephen's church at Dodgeville was also founded through the efforts of Rev. Father Mongan, who in the early eighties began holding services in that part of the town. The millworkers in increasing numbers came from distant sections of the country, as well as from Canada, and very soon their church home was provided. St. Stephen's Church was built in the latter seventies. Rev. Alfred J. Levesque is the present pastor. There is a mission at Hebronville—St. Rose of Lima.

Ample provision was made for the religious needs of the French-speaking people mostly employed in the jewelry manufacturing plants, when in 1905 St. Joseph's Church and parish were established on South Main street.

with Rev. Father Napoleon Massier as the first pastor. That year, also, the parochial school was opened under the direction of nine Sisters of St. Croix, and with 181 pupils. Father Lavoie succeeded Father Massier. The present rector is Father Antoine Berube. The parish has 1100 souls.

**Other Religious Bodies.**—Swedish services were first held in Attleboro in 1892; but the Swedish Evangelical Free Church was first organized January 24, 1903, with twenty-four members. G. N. Larsen was elected chairman of the church society, and he was still serving in 1923. The first pastor was Rev. F. O. Swanson, of Chicago, Illinois, he serving but one year. The next pastor was Rev. G. A. Suber, of Norwalk, Massachusetts, who remained with this church nearly seven years. During his pastorate the church made rapid progress, and the first church building on Pearl street became too small for the purpose, so that a new structure was built on South Main street, which was dedicated December 17, 1911. Rev. Mr. Suber removed to Washington, Connecticut, in January, 1913, and in the spring of the same year Rev. Carl Peterson of Malden resumed the work of this church, remaining until February, 1917. Since July 1 of that year, Rev. Henry R. Nelson of Montclair, New Jersey, has been the pastor.

The Christian Scientists of this section started their church organization thus: In August, 1919, a few Scientists met at the home of Mrs. Ida M. Hyde, Tiffany street, South Attleboro, and for several months thereafter meetings were held at the homes of those interested, in Attleboro and North Attleboro. Officers were elected November 25, 1919, and Mrs. Ida M. Hyde was chosen first reader, Mrs. Louise H. Collette second reader. In March, 1920, the hall in Odd Fellows' building was obtained for Sunday service. August 9, 1921, a society was organized, Mrs. Hyde continuing as first reader, and Mrs. Jennie L. Jescen being elected second reader. The title was changed June 8, 1923, to First Church of Christ, Scientist, Attleboro, Massachusetts. A Sunday school had been held prior to the organization of the society, and has been continued. This church maintains a free reading room and loan library in Room 3, I. O. O. F. building.

In 1827 the Hebronville Congregational Church was constituted by Rev. Thomas Williams and former parishioners of the First Church, who built their meetinghouse on the Attleboro and Seekonk line. Rev. Mr. Williams was pastor of this church from 1827 to 1832. He was author of many pamphlet articles and sermons. In 1842 the Hebronville church voted to relinquish the Congregational usage and became an "Independent Church of Christ." The former building was sold and removed in 1870, and the new church that was built in Seekonk was burned in 1875. A new church was built and dedicated that year.

The South Baptist Church was established in 1760; and on April 20, 1789, the First and Second Baptist churches in Attleboro met and agreed upon fellowship as sister churches. Elder Elihu Daggett was the first pastor of the South Baptist Church. He died August 29, 1769, and was succeeded by Elder Elisha Carpenter, Jr., who was the settled pastor from June 7, 1778, until about 1798. Soon afterwards this church was dissolved, and the meetinghouse was taken down in 1810.

Other religious societies of Attleboro are the following-named: Advent Christian Church, Rev. George Armstrong, pastor; First Baptist Church,



Rev. Guy E. Mark, pastor; People's Free Church, Rev. John D. Walter, pastor; Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Immanuel Church; Bethany Evangelical Mission, Attleboro Branch of the Re-organized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

---

## CHAPTER IX.

### THE DOCTORS AND LAWYERS

In all this story of Attleboro town and city, the physician has had a prominent part both in his profession and as counsellor in town and city affairs; and his wisdom and experience have counted in the course and progression of the community. History has recorded his rallying to the fore upon occasions of service for national and international wars, and his devotion and self-sacrifice at times of epidemic, his leadership being an inspiration to others.

Among the doctors of the past whose memory remains in the part they bore in their day and generation, are these: Dr. Bezaleel Mann, a skillful physician and a townsman of influence here during the Revolution. He served with the Committee of Correspondence and Safety, and as a superior judge to determine controversies. A descendant of Rev. Samuel Mann, first minister of Wrentham, he made a study of his profession with Dr. Hewes of Foxboro, and began practice here about the year 1750. He married a daughter of Ezekiel Carpenter, and they had three sons who became doctors, namely, Dr. Preston Mann, of Newport, Rhode Island; Dr. John Milton Mann, of Hudson, New York; and Dr. Herbert Mann, a surgeon who was lost with the privateer "General Arnold," December 26, 1778.

Dr. Comfort Capron, of this town, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. Other physicians of that period and shortly afterwards were: Doctors Joseph Hewes, Abijah Everett, Joseph Bacon, Comfort Fuller, Thomas Stanley, S. B. Parris, Lemuel Fuller, Seba Carpenter, James W. Foster. Phineas Savery was the "beloved physician" of his day, and for many years was the only doctor in the east part of the town. He was born in Wrentham, April 5, 1800, a graduate of Brown and of Harvard colleges, and lived the most of his life in Attleboro. Thaddeus Phelps was for a long period the only physician in the north part of the town, and many years the oldest practitioner. He was born in Windsor, Vermont, July 21, 1809, and graduate of Dartmouth College. He came here in 1838; but during the Civil War he was surgeon at the Portsmouth Grove Hospital, Rhode Island. He received a severe accident in 1865, but recovered, and courageously resumed practice, though painfully disabled. He died May 30, 1879. Dr. James W. Foster was an active practitioner in the north part of the town for thirty years. Of the homœopathic school, he had the confidence and esteem of hosts of friends throughout the town. He was born in Southbridge, this State, November 15, 1813, and was a graduate of the Vermont Medical College and the Berkshire Medical School. He started practice in Foxboro, and came here in 1854. He died in September, 1885.



Among the doctors of more recent years, Charles S. Holden came here in 1883 from Harvard Medical School and was medical examiner here thirty years. He was one of the original trustees of the Public Library, and has been prominent as a citizen and a physician. He was a member of the selective service board. He is a representative to the Legislature. Dr. Edward Sanford, a native of Raynham, received his education at Bristol Academy in Taunton, and settled at East Attleboro in 1852. He was of the homœopathic school. Dr. John R. Bronson was a native of Middleborough, Connecticut, and he settled at East Attleboro in 1856. He was a surgeon in the Union army in 1862, and had charge of hospitals at Williamsburg and Fortress Monroe. Dr. James Solomon, known as the "Indian Doctor," had a large practice in East Attleboro. Dr. Laura V. G. Mackie was one of the first women doctors here. She married Dr. George Mackie, she having been Dr. Laura Gustin. Dr. Mackie established a private sanitarium. Dr. Mary Wolfenden, a native of Attleboro, married Dr. J. W. Batthershall, both being practitioners. Dr. William O. Hewitt was chairman of the Medical Advisory Board during the World War.

**Doctors in the World War.**—The doctors answered the call to service during the World War, and upon all occasions the Attleboro physicians rallied for duty. For example, Dr. W. E. Milot spent twenty months in the service in France, where for special work he was decorated by the French government. His first commission was as lieutenant, on June 27, 1917, and he was eventually appointed a captain in the medical corps. He performed excellent service in camps in this country, notably at Fort Benjamin Harrison before going abroad.

Dr. Joshua W. Clarke was commissioned captain, M. R. C., U. S. A., on June 21, 1918. He was on active duty at the medical officers' training camp, Camp Greenleaf, Georgia, August 1, 1918, to 27, 1918; from there to Camp Lee, Petersburg, Virginia, until December 15, 1918, as sanitary officer to the Veterinary Training School, and remount division. December 15, 1918, he was assigned to duty at the Embarkation Hospital, Camp Stuart, Newport News, Va., and was on duty there in charge of the division of diseases of the thorax, until discharged from the service on April 7, 1919. In June, 1919, he was commissioned major M. C. U. S. A., and made designated examiner of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau for Bristol county. In June, 1922, he was assigned to the Eleventh Corps, Eleventh Trains Organized Reserves, which post he still holds. He served in the U. S. Navy through the Spanish-American hostilities, being assigned to duty on the hospital ship "Solace," in 1898.

Dr. H. G. Vaughan, vice-president of the Attleboro Doctors' Club, although he was not a resident of Attleboro at the time of the World War, was a captain in the Medical Corps, and served sixteen months at Spartansburg, Kentucky, and various southern camps.

Dr. John A. Reese entered active service on June 1, 1917, as first lieutenant of the Medical Corps, at medical officers' training camp at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, from June 1, 1917, to July 15, 1917. From there he joined a separate brigade, Coast Artillery, Fort Adams, Newport, Rhode Island. He was assigned to the Sixth Regiment, C. A. C., as battalion medical officer, and sailed with the regiment from New York, August



12, 1917. In company with several other medical officers he established Camp Hospital No. 13, A. E. F. in France in November, 1917, and was promoted to captain in February, 1918. He was on duty at Camp Hospital No. 13 until January 1, 1919, in the capacity of chief of surgical service. The next few months he was commanding officer of the hospital. He went from Mailly to Camp Valdahon to take command of Camp Hospital No. 12, and was promoted to major in February, 1919. He returned to the United States the latter part of April, and was discharged from service at Camp Dix, on May 3, 1919.

**Societies.**—The Attleboro Medical Society had been in existence seventeen years to 1923. On Wednesday, February 7, 1906, at a meeting of the physicians of Attleboro, it was voted to organize a local medical society, and Dr. W. O. Hewitt and Dr. George E. McPherson were appointed a committee to draft a model constitution to be presented at a subsequent meeting. Thereupon, the doctors were organized February 13 at a meeting at the residence of Dr. J. W. Battershall. Drs. Hewitt and Clark were appointed a nominating committee, and the following-named were elected the first officers of the society: President, Joseph W. Battershall; vice-president, Dr. Charles S. Holden; secretary and treasurer, Dr. George E. McPherson; meetings committee: Drs. George H. Roberts, Fred U. Murphy, George E. McPherson; ethics committee: Drs. Laura V. G. Mackie and William O. Hewitt. The officers in 1923: President, Dr. Allan MacKnight; vice-president, Dr. H. G. Vaughan; secretary and treasurer, Dr. Edith Kerkhoff.

The Attleboro Dental Association is composed of the leading dentists of this city, with Dr. W. L. Elliott as president, and Dr. Henry Robinson as secretary. During the course of the World War, all the dentists took care of the teeth of the drafted men, and a number of the dentists went into the service at various camps. For example, Dr. E. M. Webb was with the 41st in France, and at Camp Hospital No. 26 was first lieutenant and commanding officer at the dental infirmary. Dr. Robert J. Allen went to Camp Oglethorpe and was first lieutenant in the dental corps up to the time of the armistice.

**The Lawyers.**—The Bar Association of the Fourth Bristol District had its inception May 16, 1908, when a number of the members of the bar here organized under this name. Among the promoters of the project was Frank I. Babcock, one of the oldest lawyers here, former town clerk and present city clerk. The association was incorporated August 14, 1917, with the following-named as the officers: President, Judge Frederick B. Byram; vice-president, Judge Philip E. Brady; secretary and treasurer, Edwin F. Thayer. The rules committee consisted of Frank I. Babcock, Judge Philip E. Brady and James H. Leedham, Jr. The present (1923) officers are: President, Judge Philip E. Brady; vice-president, Judge Ralph C. Estes; secretary and treasurer, Edwin F. Thayer.

It is believed that Everett Bolckom was the first lawyer in this town opening an office here about the year 1820. Ezra Bassett was here at about that time. John Daggett, author of the "History of Attleboro," was a practicing lawyer here for a half century.

Probation Officer John H. Nerney has a very wide acquaintance with lawyers throughout this county. He recalls John Daggett both as thorough historian and lawyer. He used naively to remark: "Well, if we can get the jury to see this case as you do, we doubtless shall have a good case." George A. Adams was considered one of the best of lawyers. He took great interest in Company I; was also a good hunter—and fisherman. Frank I. Babcock, last town clerk and present city clerk and treasurer, was a good counsellor while practicing law, and was very careful in looking up points of law. Judge Philip E. Brady, first associate justice here, is a native of Attleboro, was city solicitor, and was mayor two terms. He is a naturalist and takes much interest in farming, in flowers and bees. Harry E. Carpenter was an attorney here a number of years. He was assessor, and lived on the old Hamilton place. A son of a Civil War veteran, he is treasurer of the Co-operative Bank. Judge Ralph C. Estes was in partnership with George A. Adams. He is a leading member of the Country Club, and is an associate justice of the district court. Walter A. Briggs, six feet five, is a lawyer "all look up to," and a man who fights hard for his clients. He is secretary and treasurer of the Woodlawn Cemetery Association. H. H. Robinson came here from Fitchburg; his hobby is hunting. Michael J. Maguire, who came from Boston, has a good practice. Joseph G. Gaynor, a native of Attleboro, is a successful lawyer.

---

## CHAPTER X.

### PUBLIC UTILITIES AND BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS

By means of the operation of such thoroughgoing institutions as those whose story this work thus recounts, Attleboro holds deservedly high place among the communities of like size and population in this State. Through her Chamber of Commerce and a number of very progressive public utilities, her banking and benevolent institutions, the city signally shares its prosperity and advancement with its citizenship.

**Chamber of Commerce.**—An indispensable cog in the wheel of the progress of the city of Attleboro is its Chamber of Commerce; and in a city of specialized industry like Attleboro, its need is known and appreciated every hour of every day, and in an endless round of civic enterprises and innovations. The local Chamber of Commerce started in none too soon to accept and test its responsibilities that have increased with every year. Originating at the time of the great activities of the year 1917, and grappling with the claims of the war-time, it found itself of practical use throughout that period and always since that time. One cannot say too much appreciatively of the valued place this organization has made for itself, and the influence it exerts throughout every department of the community. While it is an institution that secures and elaborates the present opportunities, and one also that has a way of looking into the future for the expansion of the growing city's needs and benefits, it is backed up with a history though brief, that proves that it is able to give a reason for its being.

The city had been but four years a city when the Chamber of Com-



merce put its shoulder to the wheel, and allied itself to the city's general task. It is impossible fully to review the scores of ways in which the institution has proven its worth and radiated its presence for the good of every city department and the public on all occasions. But whatever and wherever the application of its activities, there has been no halt nor let-up from the beginning. Annually there has been a programme of hard work that has shared the burdens and sharpened the faculties of industrial and civic life. By coöperating with neighboring organizations for the promotion of the interests of the general territory, reciprocal results have been achieved and helpful courtesies exchanged. Within the city's own bounds, by its aggressive work, transportation facilities have been much improved, an industrial survey of the city has been made as a guide for local relief measures; definite service has been rendered to newly organized jewelry industries; and "Know Attleboro" publicity has been carried on generously through the columns of the "Attleboro Sun." The ratings on file in the credit bureau have been revised, and through the reports to the merchants, they have been saved thousands of dollars. These were but a few of the high lights along the road at the start. In the patriotic and war activities, the Chamber of Commerce was to the fore, both in participation and initiation are the key-notes of activities here; and outside the city and State the Cross war fund and roll calls—the War Chest enterprise, the War Camp Community recreation fund, Public Safety committee coöperation, the support of the work of the fuel committee; general Americanization effort; the campaign for the war nurses' fund—as well as in scores of efforts for community welfare and industrial betterment, such as the organization of the Merchants' Retail Bureau and the active part taken in the promotion of Hayward field, a \$30,000 baseball field, and acknowledged to be the second best in New England.

Industrial matters naturally come to the fore in the functions of the Chamber of Commerce, the organization having investigated more than twenty industrial prospects, received trade inquiries from very many sources which, when forwarded to manufacturers interested resulted in considerable business for some of the city's factories; deciphered and coded cablegrams for local manufacturers; issued bulletins to manufacturers, giving them important information; gathered information for the manufacturers regarding the closing or operation of manufactories on holidays. The local organization prints a four-page paper entitled the "Attleboro Optimist," which is sent to all its members and to many Chambers of Commerce throughout the country, giving in brief form the programme of the Chamber of Commerce in Attleboro. Successful service and coöperation, such as during the Liberty loan campaigns and in those of the Red organization is known and its usefulness recognized as a factor in city-making.

The old Attleboro Board of Trade was organized in November, 1881, with a membership of twenty-nine. Its first president was Joseph Bates, and he was succeeded by Daniel Smith. The vice-president was James H. Sturdy, the secretary and treasurer was Orville Richardson, Jr. The headquarters was in the Horton block. This board had passed out of existence before 1890.

In April and May, 1917, a few community men formulated plans for having a real live organization in Attleboro, and American City Bureau was engaged to reorganize the old Attleboro Board of Trade, which was quite "dead," and the Attleboro Chamber of Commerce was started, with a membership of about 400. The officers and directors from May 1, 1917, to the present have been as follows:

1917-1918:—Walter I. Tuttle, president; D. E. Makepeace, 1st vice-president; Perle R. Cole, 2nd vice-president; Howard G. Smith, treasurer; John J. Coady, Oscar D. Briggs, Walter L. Gardner, William L. King, Charles H. Pennoyer, George F. Sawyer, Samuel Slocumb, J. L. Sweet, Howard W. Vose, Oscar Wolfenden.

1918-1919:—Walter I. Tuttle, president; George F. Sawyer, 1st vice-president; Oscar D. Briggs, 2nd vice-president; Howard G. Smith, treasurer; Harvey E. Clap, Ralph C. Estes, Joseph Finberg, Walter L. Gardner, William L. King, Leonard I. Lamb, George F. Lilly, Charles H. Pennoyer, Samuel Slocumb, J. L. Sweet.

1919-1920:—George F. Sawyer, president; Harold E. Sweet, 1st vice-president; Samuel Slocumb, 2nd vice-president; Walter L. Gardner, treasurer; Harvey E. Clap, Joseph Finberg, C. P. Keeler, William L. King, Leonard I. Lamb, George F. Lilly, T. O. Mullaly, Frank J. Nerney, J. L. Sweet, Walter I. Tuttle.

1920-1921:—Harold E. Sweet, president; William L. King, 1st vice-president; Everett L. Ford, 2nd vice-president; V. R. Glencross, treasurer; Frank T. Chase, Harvey E. Clap, Joseph Finberg, Walter L. Gardner, C. P. Keeler, Leonard I. Lamb, George F. Lilly, T. O. Mullaly, Frank J. Nerney, Frank J. Ryder, William H. Saart.

1921-1922:—William H. Saart, president; Everett L. Ford, 1st vice-president; George F. Lilly, 2nd vice-president; V. R. Glencross, treasurer; Harlan A. Allen, Frank T. Chase, Lewis S. Chilson, Dr. R. P. Dakin, Walter L. Gardner, L. P. Keeler, William L. King, T. O. Mullaly, Frank J. Nerney, Frank J. Ryder, Harold E. Sweet.

1922-1923:—Joseph Finberg, president; William H. Saart, 1st vice-president; Lewis S. Chilson, 2nd vice-president; V. R. Glencross, treasurer; Harlan A. Allen, George S. Bliven, Dr. R. P. Dakin, Walter L. Gardner, William L. King, Leonard I. Lamb, Frank J. Nerney, Herbert L. Perry, Frank J. Ryder.

1923-1924:—Harlan A. Allen, president; Lewis S. Chilson, 1st vice-president; George S. Bliven, 2nd vice-president; V. R. Glencross, treasurer; Dr. R. P. Dakin, Joseph Finberg, A. A. French, S. H. Garner, T. E. McCaffrey, Jr., Herbert L. Perry, H. K. Richardson, Joseph F. Rioux.

Walter O. Lochner was elected secretary shortly after the reorganization campaign and remained in office until August, 1921, at which time G. Cornelius Baker was appointed secretary, owing to Mr. Lochner's removal from Attleboro. In April, 1920, an expansion campaign was conducted with the aid of American City Bureau, increasing the membership to 705. At the end of the next three-year period, April, 1923, a quiet renewal campaign was conducted by the officers and directors of the Chamber, with no outside aid, and 454 members were secured on a permanent basis.

The Attleboro Merchants' Bureau, which is subsidiary to the Chamber of Commerce, was organized in March, 1919, with George F. Lilly, president, and Walter L. Gardner, vice-president. Since that time the officers have been as follows: 1920-21—George F. Lilly, president; Walter L. Gardner, 1st vice-president; T. O. Mullaly, 2nd vice-president. 1921-22—Walter L. Gardner, president; Herbert L. Perry, 1st vice-president; George S. Bliven, 2nd vice-president. 1922-23—Herbert L. Perry, president; George S. Bliven, 1st vice-president. 1923-24—George S. Bliven, president; William J. Watson, 1st vice-president. The secretary of the Chamber of Commerce is also secretary of the Merchants' Bureau. The present membership of the bureau is 66.

A résumé of the enterprises of the Merchants' Bureau is stated as fol-



lows: Principally it had been put into action to build up the retail and commercial business of the city. Through this bureau, coöperation has been secured. It has been the means of promoting dollar days and price reduction sales; uniform summer half-holiday schedule was put into effect; merchants have been benefited by the establishment of small claims court; in the credit-rating department hundreds of credit enquiries have been answered; thrift club discount cards have been sent all persons holding Christmas Thrift club deposits in local banks, and substantial reduction given by all merchants to those holding the cards.

**Public Utilities.**—With the interest that has been taken in recent years with regard to public breathing-places for citizens and visitors, Attleboro has been making a specialty of establishing her parks and making their adornment and attractions of a lasting character. The work of the park commission was begun in 1901, and every year has marked a growth and advancement in this department. In the year 1901 the heirs of Dennis Capron—namely, Everett S. Capron, Hartford Capron and Mrs. Eliza Carpenter deeded the town of Attleboro thirty acres on the westerly side of County and Dennis streets, to be used for park purposes and named Capron Park. The casino at this park was donated by Marsden J. Perry in 1902. The fountain was donated in 1910 by Mrs. John Wolfenden, in memory of her husband, John Wolfenden. The Newell Shelter was given in 1911 by Mrs. Fred E. Newell. The wading pool at this park was the gift of Mrs. Gertrude H. Sweet, in 1917, in honor of her parents. Memorial avenue was donated by citizens of Attleboro, and Grand Army avenue was donated by the Woman's Relief Corps.

Tennis courts have become very popular on the park—likewise the Zoo. The playgrounds under efficient supervision of Henry R. Reinhardt and J. Ray Cooney, and with Miss Alma C. Hillman as girls' supervisor, have been conducted on as thorough a scale comparatively as any such department in the larger cities, and taking into account all the features that appertain to up-to-date playgrounds wherever found.

The Attleboro baseball park is known far and wide throughout the baseball world, as it is the place where the All Star series of games has been played, and where twenty thousand people have gathered to witness great games of ball. There have come such big league players as Hank Gowdy, Grover Alexander, Joe Judge, Rogers Hornsby, Rabbit Maranville, Sam Rice, Heinie Groh, George Sisler, Ray Powell, Stuffy McInnis, Babe Ruth and many others. The field was donated to the city by Harold E. Sweet, former mayor of Attleboro, and a live sportsman. Interest was high in Attleboro during the winter of 1920, when an association with five hundred members was formed and plans formulated for a new field. The new park became a reality during the summer of 1921, and is considered one of the best in New England. Before the association was formed, Attleboro relied on what is known as the old triumvirate, William H. Saart, Oscar Wolfenden and Harold E. Sweet. The officers of the association in 1922: President, John J. Hodge; 1st vice-president, E. V. Sweet; 2nd vice-president, Harold E. Sweet; 3rd vice-president, Ralph P. Kent; secretary and treasurer, W. E. McGuire.

The Attleboro City Planning Board has been keeping step with the



city's progress almost from the time of the city's incorporation, and its forces and plans, joined with those of the other departments of the municipality, have proven to be some of the most distinguishing means of community welfare. The opportunities of this board are advantageous far beyond those of any of the larger and older cities in this part of the State, chiefly because of the fact that Attleboro's outlook for expansion and growth are not limited by the almost ineradicable conditions that pertain to the already fixed business and residential centres of large cities, whose planning boards have been no longer in service than Attleboro's. The energies of the latter have been directed from the beginning conformably with the city's requirements.

Attleboro's city council, on March 2, 1915, approved ordinances providing for the creation of a City Planning Board, consisting of six members; and on March 16 that year it certified the nominations of the mayor for the board, namely, Joseph Finberg, George A. Sweeney, Raymond M. Horton, Milford E. Bliss, Mrs. Josephine Hammond, Mrs. Mary G. Mullaly. Therefore, on March 23, the board organized with Joseph Finberg as chairman, and George A. Sweeney as secretary. Thereupon, clean-up campaigns were planned and carried through; the better lighting system for Monument Square was suggested by the board, which square was set aside for parking purposes. Many of the recommendations of the board were well received, such as that of acquiring land for a city hall; that the board be consulted whenever streets are to be laid out; that traffic zones be established for the regulation of vehicles; and in co-operation with the Chamber of Commerce, gardens have been established in all parts of the city. In 1918, George A. Sweeney, secretary, resigned, and Edgar A. Remington was appointed to that position by the mayor. In 1923 Robert Mawney was appointed secretary, and the other officers remained as before. The board is pushing its proposition of widening Park and South Main streets, and urges the layout of a new street forty feet in width from Union to Pine street, south of the postoffice building.

The Attleboro postoffice was erected in 1916, at a cost of \$91,000, the business having increased in ten years, 1900 to 1920, from \$20,907, to \$120,158. In 1923, forty-two men were employed; William J. Kenney was the postmaster; Thomas W. Worrall, assistant postmaster; and Walter T. Fisher, superintendent of mails.

The outline of the story of the postoffice in the town before the division and to date, is as follows: The first postroad between Boston and New York was in operation in 1704, when the postman left mail for Attleboro at Woodcock's tavern. Israel Hatch was appointed the first postmaster here in 1789, and his tavern was the headquarters for the mail. Mr. Hatch was reappointed in 1805 and 1809; and his successors have been: for the East Attleboro section: Ezra Bassett, 1820; Rev. Nathan Holman, 1821; Orville Balcom, 1827; Colonel Willard Blackington, 1830; Lyman W. Dean, 1836; Nathan C. Luther, 1861; Abijah T. Wales, 1881; Philip E. Brady, 1886; Loring W. Barnes, 1890; George A. Sweeney, 1894; John A. Thayer, 1898; William J. Kenney, 1914. Ezra Bassett kept the mail in a small office building adjoining the Gideon Sweet house, the mail then being brought by stages running between Taunton and Providence. The

mail was distributed from the tavern during several subsequent postmaster-ships, and from about 1850 in the "bank building." Successively the headquarters were in the Dean hotel, the Sturdy building, the Bates Opera House. During the World War, sixteen of the postoffice employes were in the service, and during the war period the total of war savings and war thrift stamps disposed of amounted to \$149,160.

The Department of Public Works, in existence since 1914, has jurisdiction over the care of all public highways, construction of new streets, sidewalks, street lighting, oiling, street signs, house numbering, street cleaning, surface drainage, sewers and sewage disposal; the water system, its care and upkeep and extension, the pumping station, filter beds, storage reservoir, and the maintenance of the A. B. C. street railway, and the supervision of its contract operation.

The fire department in 1923 consisted of the chief, Fred H. Clark; eighty-seven men, three enginemen, twenty-three permanent men, fifty-nine call men; one engine company, six hose companies, three ladder companies, with eighteen pieces of apparatus. The Gamewell fire alarm system is in working order, and there are 497 hydrants in use in the city. Attleboro fire district was first established November 19, 1859, the fire department being constituted in school districts fifteen, eighteen and twenty-one.

Since the incorporation of the city in 1914, the functions of the Water Board have been directed by the Commission of Public Works, John D. Taber, Jr., superintendent. The old board was organized in 1873, with Dr. George B. Fittz as superintendent. That year an act was passed by the Legislature which incorporated the Attleboro Water Supply District, a territory that covered a circular area one mile in diameter, its central point being in the passenger depot of the Boston & Providence railroad. The act was accepted in July, 1873, and a prudential committee of three was elected by the voters to have supervision of the work of laying the pipe, and starting the plant in operation. The committee performed a thorough work at the outset, for a pump house was built and two pumps were set up, 9,000 feet of pipe were laid, thirty hydrants were set, and seventy-nine houses were connected with the main. During the progress of this new undertaking the committee had been working with neither adequate funds nor proper equipment; yet the very next year, the receipts that were obtained from the supply amounted to \$789.98. And this was the beginning of what is now considered a plant that is worth \$800,000, with yearly receipts, including hydrant rental of over \$70,000.

During the twenty years of the existence of the Water Supply District, a steady and practical growth was maintained. In 1893 the district was taken over as a municipal department by the town, and by that time it had about twenty miles of pipe, 130 hydrants, 425 metered connections, an iron standpipe on King street, the Blake and Dean pumps. There was also a debt of \$155,000, and the annual receipts were about \$10,000. Since 1893 the department has been under the supervision of a Board of Water Commissioners. In 1905 a concrete steel re-enforced stand-pipe was built, one hundred feet in height and fifty feet in diameter. In 1909 the water in Orr's pond was made use of, and 40,000,000 gallons of water were drawn from the pond that year. In 1910 the storage reservoir was constructed



on the branch brook that joins Seven Mile river, the cost being \$83,000. In 1911 the Hoppin hill reservoir was completed. In 1913, a 4,000,000 gallon Snow pump was installed. Following Dr. Rittz, Henry A. Bodman was the superintendent; W. J. Luther held that position from 1894 to 1898; L. Z. Carpenter from 1899 to 1901, when he was succeeded by George H. Snell. Charles A. Robinson was superintendent in 1911, and after the position was occupied for a short time by Herbert A. Conant, the board turned the management of the plant over to the city in 1914, when the first commissioner was Henry J. Goodale.

Attleboro Gaslight Company was formed in 1857, and the first officers were: President, Dr. Edward Sanford; treasurer, G. A. Whipple; superintendent, Jonathan Peck. The works were built on Dunham near Pine street, and were enlarged in 1873. New buildings were erected in 1882. In 1887 the officers were: President, J. W. Capron; vice-president, G. N. Crandall; secretary and treasurer, A. W. Sturdy. Everett S. Capron was connected with the company both as president and superintendent about thirty-two years. Albert W. Sturdy was associated with the concern nearly as long. In 1918 Attleboro began buying gas of the Taunton Gaslight Company, and the board of officers of the plant is the same as that in Taunton.

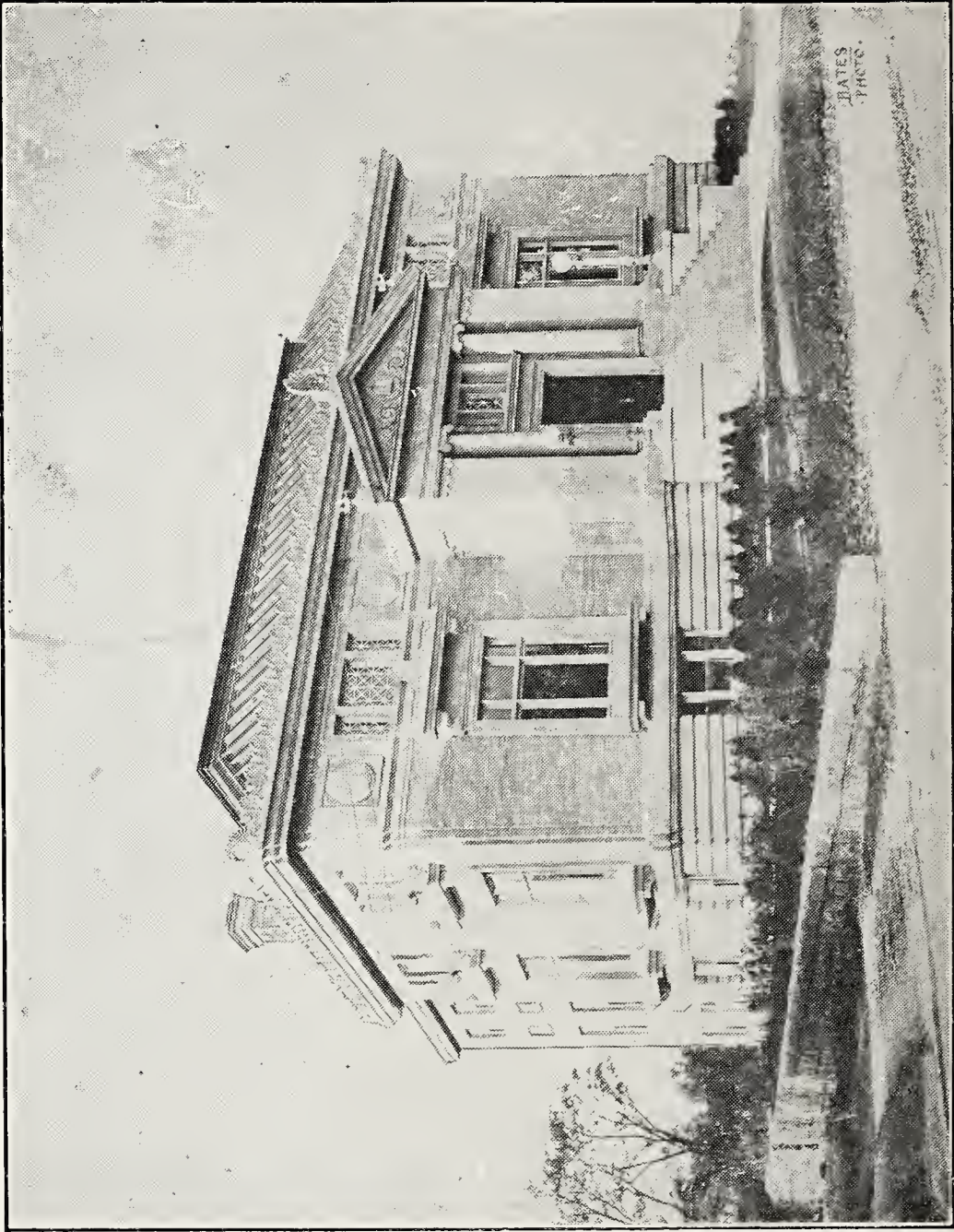
Attleboro Steam and Electric Company, with office in the city, and works at Farmers' Station, was incorporated in 1895. The capital is \$275,000. The president is Thomas C. Fales; clerk and treasurer, Vincent Goldthwaite; directors: Maurice J. Curran, Frank J. Fahey, Vincent Goldthwaite, James R. Nicholson; superintendent and manager, Edgar Tregoning.

Attleboro is a central point for street railways in every direction, county and suburban, and the following, in outline, recounts the principal street railway movements in this section: In 1889 the Attleboro-Plainville street car line was built, and the cars were run by horses in the fall of that year. The first electric cars of that company were operated April 1, 1890. The first superintendent was George Murch, and he was succeeded by George Emmett, Louis Dillon, Charles Carter and John Tregoning. April 2, 1893, the power house of this plant at Farmers' Village was burned. From that time onwards up to May 30, 1894, the line was discontinued, when, with Albion H. Watkins as superintendent, operations were resumed. George Cook and Fred Weld succeeded Mr. Watkins as superintendent, and the office was then removed, to occupy that of the Rhode Island Company in Pawtucket; and while the headquarters of the road were there, the superintendents were Raymond Smith and R. R. Brown. Removal was later made to Attleboro, with Alexander Allen as superintendent, and he was succeeded by Charles L. Rogers, William Walker and Frank S. Hunnewell, the latter the superintendent in 1923.

In 1891 cars were first run over the north line to Pawtucket, and soon afterwards the east line to that city began operations, both lines later being extended to Providence. In April, 1907, the Fountain street barn of this road was removed from Pawtucket to Attleboro; and in the fall of 1908 the South Attleboro line to Pawtucket and Providence was started. The Attleboro branch line, separate from the interstate line, though under the same ownership, began operations in 1903; and in 1911 an electric express was started from here to Pawtucket and Providence. The Bristol County







PUBLIC LIBRARY—ATTLEBORO

street railway, from Pawtucket to Attleboro to Taunton, was built in 1903, but in 1904 it went into the hands of the Taunton and Pawtucket street railway.

The Mansfield and Norton Street Railway Company was organized in 1898, and its first car was run December 21, that year. In 1899 it was consolidated with the Norton and Taunton road as the Norton and Taunton Company, with David Coolidge as president, and R. W. Hewins as clerk and treasurer. The city, with Norton and Taunton, purchased the railway in 1919, and under the municipal ownership it is the Norton, Taunton and Attleboro Street Railway Company.

The Attleboro, North Attleboro and Wrentham Street Railway Company was organized in the autumn of 1887, with the following-named board of directors: H. G. Bacon, Peter Nerney, C. L. Watson, J. E. Draper, H. M. Daggett, Jr., W. M. Fisher, F. L. Burden. Electric cars commenced running April 5, 1880. Work on the Interstate line was commenced in April, 1891, and the line opened for traffic July 17, 1892. Cars were run from North Attleboro to Old Town, August 13, 1892, and the route toward Attleboro was opened October 15, 1892. November 1, one car was running from Attleboro to Hebronville. July 1, 1893, the Interstate Street Railway Company acquired the property and franchise of the Attleboro, North Attleboro and Wrentham Street Railway Company.

**Public Library.**—Like all the old towns of New England, the community enjoyed books—they were a reading population. Some of the townfolk had fair-sized libraries in their homes; on occasions, the pastors of churches had circulating libraries in their parsonages, though such libraries were small. Older libraries established in Attleboro were much like the popular lyceums that were the vogue of the 1850 decade, with noted speakers of the day. "The Attleboro society for the encouragement of agriculture, arts and social intercourse" was constituted here February 22, 1804, with forty-nine members, though it was not incorporated until 1816. Its library had about three hundred volumes. The place of meeting was a building at West Attleboro, whose construction was shared by the association, and that was also used as a district schoolhouse. Another similar society founded in 1805 was the "Social Library and Farmers' Historical and Geographical Society," and it contained about two thousand volumes. Both libraries were dissolved about 1835. A lyceum was established in 1830. East Attleboro also had a library chiefly of agricultural subjects at the time.

The Attleboro Library Association, with its collection of 137 volumes was in existence in March, 1860, with John Daggett as its president, its formation having been brought about from a Mite society started by Mrs. Handel N. Daggett in 1857. About the year 1864 it united with the Agricultural Library Association, when Dr. J. R. Bronson was its president. It was incorporated on March 6, 1865, with J. W. Capron as its president; Charles E. Bliss, vice-president; A. M. Everett, secretary and treasurer. The presidents in succession were: George N. Crandall, 1874-76; Amos Ide to 1878; George B. Fittz to 1880; G. F. Bicknell. Thereafter the library and its interests were transferred from store to store in the town, and in the eighties it was discontinued.



On January 15, 1885, a meeting was held at G. A. R. Hall for the purpose of considering the establishment and maintenance of a free library for the town, and a committee was appointed consisting of the following-named, to prepare a plan for organization: A. W. Edson, superintendent of schools; Rev. Walter Barton, Rev. J. A. L. Rich, Major Everett S. Horton, Dr. George Mackie, G. A. Dean, Dr. G. B. Fittz, C. L. Watson, Dr. C. S. Holden. At a second meeting at the vestry of the Congregational church, February 2, 1885, Major E. S. Horton was elected chairman, and Dr. C. S. Holden secretary, the following-named board of directors being chosen: Rev. Walter Barton, A. W. Edson, J. M. Bates, E. S. Horton, J. L. Sweet, Miss Lottie Steele, Rev. H. A. Philbrook, C. R. Harris, Dr. George Mackie, C. E. Bliss, Peter Nerney, Miss Mary J. Capron, C. L. Watson, Dr. G. B. Fittz, Dr. C. S. Holden, F. W. Lincoln, Mrs. Louis J. Lamb, A. W. Sturdy. On February 5, the board of directors elected Major Everett S. Horton president; Miss Mary J. Capron vice-president; Dr. C. S. Holden secretary and treasurer. In May, 1885, the library was opened in the Horton block, Mrs. Isabel L. Mowton librarian; the former circulating library transferring all its books thereto, and the Y. M. C. A. giving its books and newspapers for the reading room, the institution through various sources raising the fund of \$1,620.16. At the first annual meeting, held at the hall of the W. C. T. U. in the Horton block, April 26, 1886, the report of the librarian showed that the library owned 2195 books. Mrs. Mowton, the librarian, resigned her position in November, 1887, because of removal from the town, and Mrs. Nellie A. Blackinton was chosen as her successor. The division of the town took place in 1887, and the new town of Attleboro, at its annual meeting in 1888, voted to make an appropriation to support the library on condition that the library association surrender its property to the town. This the association did, and the property thus transferred amounted in value to more than \$2,800, and included 2800 books. Upon the resignation of Mrs. Blackinton in 1898, Miss Letitia S. Allen was chosen librarian. She died May 1, 1905, and Miss Mattie Tyrie, of the Fall River Public Library, was appointed her successor.

The present library building was opened Monday, November 11, 1907. The cost of the building, \$80,000, was secured by public subscription, and the lot was donated by Joseph L. Sweet. Miss Tyrie, the librarian, resigned in April, 1907, on account of ill health, and Miss Eugenia H. Henry succeeded her. In 1908, Major Everett S. Horton, president of the library board from the time of its organization, resigned, and in May that year the library became a member of the Library Art Club.

Miss Helen M. Claflin, a graduate of the New York State Library School, was chosen librarian in 1915, and this year marked the beginning of the organization of the high school library, under public library direction. The department of the picture collection was begun at the library this year. The library's bit during the World War far exceeded its quota of \$900 for the establishment of camp libraries in cantonments; and the institution constantly acted as an agency for the government throughout the war. The new children's room was opened in the spring of 1917. In 1918 Miss Claflin resigned as librarian, and Mrs. Lucinda F. Spofford, assistant librarian at the Somerville Public Library, was appointed to the position.

In 1923 the library, with six funds to assist in its maintenance, and with more than 25,000 books upon its shelves, had a circulation of above 126,000, the city's appropriation for that department being \$14,500. The circulation through the children's room was close to 39,000. Branch libraries are maintained at the high school, at Hebronville and Dodgeville. The library trustees in 1923: Joseph L. Sweet, chairman; Thomas E. McCaffrey, Elizabeth J. Wilmarth, Eleanor A. Carpenter, William L. King, Raymond M. Horton, Edith L. Claflin, Caroline S. Holden, Edwin F. Peach secretary.

**The Press.**—The first newspaper in the Attleboros was the Attleboro Bulletin, published at North Attleboro by J. M. Stewart. Later it was bought by Robert Sherman of Pawtucket, who changed the name to the Bristol County News. In 1872 the Attleboro Chronicle was issued by Walter Phillips of Providence from a little office near the present Park hotel in Attleboro. Later this was moved to North Attleboro and sold to Dunbar & Quinn. A number of changes occurred in the firm, and in 1884 it became a semi-weekly. In 1890 it became a daily in North Attleboro, and now continues under the able management of Ex-Senator Joseph W. Martin, Jr., with Charles Martin as editor.

In 1875 T. S. Pratt started the Attleboro Advocate, and associated with him was David S. Lowe. A steam power press was installed in 1879 by Mr. Lowe, who had purchased the business. In 1881 E. H. and N. J. Sweet bought the paper, and in 1887, when E. H. Sweet left town on a health trip, his interest was purchased by William A. Sturdy of Chartley. The firm then became Sweet & Sturdy. Job B. Savery was the first editor, and those to follow were a Mr. Carpenter, C. M. Barrows, N. A. Mowton and George Randall, the last named retiring in 1888 and Mr. Mowton returning.

In 1889 it was decided to issue a daily paper, and on September 3 of that year the first issue of the Attleboro Sun appeared. In the first year the circulation averaged 2205 daily. Mr. Sweet left the partnership in 1891, and two months later Mr. Mowton took control. The venture into one-cent journalism took courage as well as capital. The Woonsocket Reporter, which called itself the daddy of one-cent papers in these parts and which has since been consolidated with its lively neighbor, the Call, viewed the step with distrust and croaked solemnly of the wrecks that strewed the one-cent path. Only a little while before, such a daily in North Attleboro came to an untimely end. In spite of dismal predictions and with faith in the field, the publishers essayed the feat. The Tuesday after Labor Day was chosen for the birth. Their daily was a four-page, six-column affair, and it served Attleboro, North Attleboro, Mansfield and Norton. News in the first issue was not of startling nature, but the traditions of the district were served by presenting nearly two columns of baseball on page one. Attleboro was then leading a four-club league and there were reports of a 10-10 tie with Taunton in 11 innings, of a game forfeited by the locals to Whittenton and one forfeited by Whittenton to Attleboro, and of a 16-4 victory by Attleboro over the Wamsuttas. Of the advertisers in the first issue, G. A. Sweeney's store, George A. Monroe and E. A. Fuller are still in business, and the legal card of F. I. Babcock places him also as among the first advertisers.



In 1906 the company was reorganized with John H. Vallette as president and manager, and Charles C. Cain, Jr., as editor. One of the first steps was a move into larger quarters, and the Railroad avenue office was transferred to the ground floor of Odd Fellows' block on Bank street. A new duplex press was installed in 1907 to meet the growth. In 1905 the circulation was 2,740, by 1909 it was 3,840, and by 1912 it had reached 5,039. Issues as large as 36 pages; special editions in 1909, 1914 and 1919 were issued; a charter study fostered by the Sun beginning in 1908 culminated in the adoption of a city charter in 1914, and each year of its history has been marked with enterprise and success. In 1914 a new press and stereotyping outfit were installed, and a Goss press that can turn out 20,000 sixteen-page papers in an hour, now serves the readers. In addition to a leased wire of the International News Service, the Sun has also an Associated Press wire but, despite all this service, it places heavy emphasis upon local news. A disastrous fire entirely wiped out its Bank street plant in March, 1918, but the Sun enterprise produced a paper in Pawtucket in less than twelve hours after the fire started, and not one issue was lost. The circulation now (1923) exceeds 5,600, though the Sun was forced by rising material costs to increase to a two-cent price in 1916.

John H. Vallette is president of the company and general manager; Charles C. Cain, Jr., is vice-president and editor, and A. A. Penney, superintendent of the plant, constitutes the other director. Recently the Sun purchased its present home on South Main street, and it is busy with plans for enlarging its single story building which houses the newspaper and job plant.

**Ancient Buildings.**—John Woodcock's public house on the Bay road, and fortified as a garrison, was licensed as an ordinary in 1670, oldest of the inns in this section, this garrison being known as one in a chain of fortifications extending from Boston to Rhode Island. It was a convenient public house for travelers, and a well-known station during King Philip's war. In turn, John Devotion, John Daggett, Alexander Maxcy, Josiah Maxcy and Colonel Israel Hatch were the proprietors. Many illustrious people stopped there, such as Washington and Lafayette, John Quincy Adams, Commodore Hull, Commodore Bainbridge, General Winfield Scott, President Monroe, Daniel Webster. The old building was torn down in 1806, and a new inn, the "Steam Boat Hotel," so-called, erected on the site, which was kept as a tavern by Israel Hatch, the son of the former owner, until the year 1840. Other taverns and inns of years ago were the Wilmarth, the Daggett, the Nevill and the Barrows taverns.

The old Powder House, long a famous landmark, had its beginnings in 1768. It was on September 12 that year, that the town voted to have the building erected on land donated by Jacob Newell, for the purpose of keeping the town's stock of ammunition. The building, circular in shape, nearly twelve feet in diameter and with a cone-shaped roof, was built of six thousand brick in October and November, 1768. It was used as a storehouse for "materials of war" both during the days of the Revolution and the War of 1812, and powder was kept there even to recent times.

**Banking Institutions.**—The Attleboro First National Bank was incorporated in 1875, the first board of directors being Colonel Willard Blackin-



ton, Joseph M. Bates, James H. Sturdy, George Asa Dean, Frank S. Draper, Benjamin S. Freeman, George C. Eliot, Shepard W. Carpenter, Charles E. Hayward, Gideon M. Horton, William M. Fisher, Homer M. Daggett. Colonel Blackinton was chosen president; Charles E. Hayward, vice-president; George Asa Dean, clerk; cashier, Homer M. Daggett. The bank's capital at the time was \$100,000. Colonel Blackinton died January 1, 1877, and he was succeeded by J. M. Bates as president. The latter died in 1905, and Clarence L. Watson became president, September 18, 1905. Vice-President Charles E. Hayward was succeeded by David E. Makepeace, January 9, 1906, the latter having been elected to the board January 23, 1900. Frederick G. Mason succeeded Homer W. Daggett as cashier in 1903, and he was appointed vice-president January 11, 1922. George L. Seekell was chosen assistant cashier in January, 1923. The present board of directors: Clarence L. Watson, Harvey E. Clap, Samuel M. Einstein, Edward L. Gowen, Joseph L. Sweet, Michael F. Dooley, David E. Makepeace, Oscar Wolfenden, George F. Sawyer, William L. King, Fred E. Briggs, Frederick S. Peck, Raymond M. Horton, Harold E. Sweet, George F. Lilley.

The Attleboro Savings and Loan Association was organized about the year 1854, as the Attleboro Loan Fund Association, and it so continued about fourteen years. It was reorganized in 1869 under the name of the Attleboro Loan and Fund Association, but in 1876 it was reorganized again and under the present name, Attleboro Savings and Loan Association. The first president was Lorenzo Makepeace, and he was succeeded after a year by Willard Blackinton, and he by Joseph W. Capron. The officers in 1923: President, Frank W. Weaver; vice-president, W. L. King; secretary and treasurer, Caleb Slade; attorney, Frank I. Babcock. Directors: Frank W. Weaver, F. I. Babcock; C. S. Holden, W. J. Luther, R. M. Morton, A. M. Dunham, H. K. Richardson, O. Wolfenden, A. S. Ingraham, H. P. Kent, W. L. King, M. L. Carter, J. Finberg, H. E. Clap, A. A. French; trustees: H. P. Kent, and R. M. Horton; loan committee: F. W. Weaver, H. E. Clap, H. P. Kent, W. L. King. The value of the shares of the bank with interest in 1923, was \$2,248,248.01. The amount of the guaranty fund that year was \$125,364.38.

The Attleboro Co-operative Bank Corporation was organized in 1892, with Charles Grant as the president of the board of directors, and Frank W. Carpenter as treasurer. The officers for 1923: President, Solomon B. Jacobs; vice-president, Campbell C. Grant; treasurer, Harry E. Carpenter; board of directors: Millard F. Ashley, Alonzo N. Brownell, Isaac H. Bruce, Harry E. Carpenter, Thomas S. Carpenter, Walter A. Cunningham, Joseph Finberg, Campbell C. Grant, Solomon B. Jacobs, Joseph Kerkhoff, Thomas E. McCaffrey, Walter J. Newman, Edgar A. Remington, Fred L. Torrey, H. E. White. For more than thirty years this bank has been a factor in inculcating thrift and establishing homes in the community. The real estate loans amount to \$317,455; the dues capital amount to \$207,743.

The Attleboro Trust Company was incorporated November 23, 1910, and started business March 6, 1911, with Charles M. Robbins as president, Albert S. Ingram as vice-president, and W. G. Meader as treasurer. Mr. Ingram was chosen president in 1913, and Mr. Meader, former treasurer, is now vice-president. Victor R. Glencross was appointed secretary and treasurer, May 1, 1919. The board of directors consists of the above-named

and Charles E. Moore, Charles S. Holden, Amos S. Blackinton, Edwin F. Thayer, George H. Sykes, Harlan A. Allen, William H. Bell, William H. Bannon, Milford E. Bliss, Stephen J. Clulee, Alfred D. Crosby, Everett O. Dexter, Joseph Finberg, Ernest D. Gilmore, George H. Herrick, Albert S. Ingraham, Solomon B. Jacobs, Edgar A. Remington, Daniel C. Richardson, Hugh A. Smith, Frank R. Sweet, Walter I. Tuttle, Frank W. Weaver, Charles C. Wilmarth. The capital stock in 1923 amounted to \$200,000. In the savings department the deposits amounted to \$1,057,328.56. Christmas Thrift Club deposits at that time were \$89,278.67.

The Attleboro Savings Bank Branch is located in the Bates block. The treasurer is James E. Totten, assisted by Misses Ada M. Chadwick, Alice M. Burton and Helen W. Ralph. The bank itself is located at North Attleboro, and the outline of its history is told with that department.

**Benevolent Institutions.**—A spring of perennial waters, soft and clear, set amidst picturesque wooded hills, determined the site of Attleboro's first hospital, now known as Attleboro Springs. The Blanding farm on "Ridge Hill road" (Park avenue) was purchased by Dr. James M. Solomon, Junior, and in 1894 ground had been cleared and field stone utilized in beginning the massive walls of the present building. A handsome park was planned and drives laid out. Financial difficulties ensued, and it was not until 1903, after John M. Fisher, manufacturing jeweller of Attleboro, had given the project his sympathetic backing and financial support, that plans for the building and grounds were completed. "Almost \$400,000 has been invested," says the "Attleboro Sun" of April 25, 1903, describing the dedication, which was attended by thousands of Attleboro citizens and distinguished guests. Prominent business men took stock in the corporation which held the property till September, 1918, when Mr. Fisher made a gift of his holdings to the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The few remaining shares were then purchased by the board, grounds enlarged, buildings improved, and the institution incorporated as Attleboro Springs, Inc.

The present object is not profit-making, but in accordance with the wish of the donor to conduct it "as a sanitarium on a philanthropic basis for the largest benefit of humanity." This policy makes possible medical attendance, electro and hydrotherapeutic treatment with room and board at moderate rates. The capacity is one hundred beds. Massage and fomentations are given under the direction of the doctors by nurses specially trained for this work. A well-balanced menu is provided, with special diets when prescribed. Mental or contagious cases are not received. The patronage of Attleboro Springs is largely from two classes: Health-seekers, who need more than medication and ordinary home care. For them the change of scene and relief from work-day surroundings, with the various types of physio-therapy, play an important part in the cure. And health-keepers, who in accordance with the modern theory of preventive medicine come periodically to combine rest and recreation with a "complete physical check-up," and with the light of such physical examination seek advice on how to keep well. While only two miles from railroad, post and telegraph office, yet Attleboro Springs affords complete freedom from the dust and roar of city streets, and the business treadmill. It is preëminently a place for fagged brain, tense muscles and tired nerves. The building is of solid



masonry, 276 feet in length. "A great stone castle" travellers from Europe have called it. Passing picturesque, spring-fed lakelets and little hills, one finds it on an eminence in the midst of 187 acres of woodland and meadow. The unique and imposing architecture together with a varied natural park, make this a place of special interest to the sightseer in Bristol county.

By a generous clause in will of Mrs. Ellen A. Winsor, the homestead estate of her father, the late James H. Sturdy, was bequeathed to the town of Attleborough to be used for a general hospital, in memory of James H. and Adah S. Sturdy. In addition to this gracious act, Mrs. Winsor placed her residuary estate in a permanent fund to be known as the Albert W. and Ellen A. Winsor Fund, to be held in trust, the income only thereof to be used to assist in the maintenance of said hospital. The original gift of real estate known as the Sturdy Foundation is valued at \$30,000, and the personal property left by Mr. and Mrs. Winsor, known as the Winsor Foundation, is valued at \$93,000. The location for such an institution was ideal, but to prepare the property for modern hospital work required the expenditure of a larger sum of money than the Town officials felt warranted at the time in asking the citizens to appropriate. At this crisis the Attleborough Hospital, a corporation organized under Massachusetts laws, came forward and offered to take the property in trust, reconstruct the home house, build new additions, erect in connection therewith a modern operating wing, equip the whole plant, and open the institution as a general hospital to be known as the Sturdy Memorial Hospital. The town of Attleborough at a special meeting held May 14, 1912, accepted the offer of the Attleborough Hospital, and in due time placed the property in question in trust with said corporation. The work of reconstruction and building new was commenced in July, 1912, and on April 14, 1913, after an expenditure of something over \$30,000, the hospital was opened. Again in July, 1914, another addition was made known as the Nurses Home, with provision also for maternity cases, thus making thirty beds as the total capacity of the hospital, being largely possible because of a gift of \$10,000 from the late Fannie M. Tappan.

In 1922, Joseph L. Sweet, president of the Attleborough Hospital since its beginning, provided for the erection of a \$125,000 fireproof addition to be known as the Florence Hayward Sweet Maternity building, and adding twenty-one beds to the capacity of the hospital. This addition was opened in June, 1923. At present the hospital has real and personal property, resulting largely from the above mentioned donations, totaling nearly \$300,000. Its facilities have been taxed practically to the limit since the opening of the hospital, 260 patients having been admitted in 1914, with a constant increase each year, the number having reached 738 in 1922. The increase in obstetrical cases has been particularly marked, from 14 in 1913 to 151 in 1922. A competent devoted local staff of physicians, superintendent and nurses, a consulting staff of physicians and surgeons of wide repute, an interested public, largely represented through the effective help rendered by the women's organization known as the Sturdy Memorial Hospital Aid Association, have resulted in the development of one of the finest hospitals in New England, with a standard of efficiency equivalent to that in many of the larger and well known hospitals. The officers of the hospital are: President, Joseph L. Sweet; vice-president, L. V. G. Mackie, M. D.; treasurer, Harold E. Sweet; secretary, Randolph E. Bell. The board of man-



agers consist of: Joseph L. Sweet, chairman; Joseph Finberg, Ernest D. Gilmore, William J. Luther, Harold E. Sweet, Hon. Geo. A. Sweeney, mayor; Howard G. Smith, president of the Municipal Council, *ex officio*, Frank I. Babcock, city treasurer.

The nucleus and starting-point of the Attleboro League for Girls and Women was the Girls Club that was launched by Attleboro Chapter, D. A. R. in 1914. The League began its coöperative effort in 1918, to include within its scope the Girls Club, the Girl Scouts, the Mothers Club and the Loyalty Sewing Society. It is through the generosity of Mrs. Harold E. Sweet that the League has its excellent headquarters at 47 Bank street, which has become a social and educational centre of the city, and where classes in sewing and millinery are maintained for the membership. Miss Harriet Wilmarth is the president of the League; Mrs. P. J. Callowhill is the secretary; Mrs. S. M. Einstein the treasurer. The working secretary is Miss Catherine Briggs. The membership of the League was four hundred in 1923.

On February 18, 1915, the subscribers to membership in the Associated Charities of Attleboro, Inc., met in the vestry of Murray Church and formed a temporary organization as follows: Joseph L. Sweet, who was instrumental in forming the society and in its incorporation, was chosen temporary chairman, and William L. King, clerk; and Lina Coe Bliss, Dr. L. V. G. Mackie, Josephine L. Hammond, Martha C. McRae, Harriet Wilmarth, Hannah Pratt, Alice E. Cook, Joseph L. Sweet, C. J. McClatchey, W. G. Meader, C. C. Wilmarth, Milford E. Bliss, Edgar A. Remington, S. M. Einstein, Joseph Finberg, William L. King, John W. Cody, T. S. Carpenter, E. P. Claflin, A. A. French, and T. T. McCaffrey, directors. The directors met immediately after this meeting, and Clelland J. McClatchey was chosen president; Alice E. Cook, vice-president; C. C. Wilmarth, treasurer; and William L. King, clerk. The society located in the Bronson building. On March 15, 1915, Miss Margaret Todd accepted the position of general secretary and served until January, 1920, when Agnes M. Pike was chosen to succeed her. Miss Pike filled the position until December 31, 1921, and, on February 6, 1922, Miss Ruth Hyslop of Providence was chosen as general secretary. The organization has become a vital factor in the social life of the city and is in a flourishing condition. The officers: Milford E. Bliss, president; Martha C. McRae, vice-president; E. H. Brown, treasurer; William L. King, clerk; Milford E. Bliss, E. H. Brown, John W. Cody, S. M. Einstein, Joseph L. Sweet, C. C. Wilmarth, Rathburn Willard, A. L. Bottomley, S. M. Holman, Jr., Mrs. Lina F. Bliss, Mrs. Geo. H. Crosby, Mrs. A. A. McRae, Mrs. H. P. Kent, Mrs. Joseph Finberg, Mrs. C. A. Mooers, William L. King, directors; Miss Ruth Hyslop, general secretary; Miss Norma Whitmarsh, assistant. The office is located in the Sanford building on Park street.

The story of the Dodgeville Neighborhood House Association, as recorded by a former secretary, Mrs. William J. Watson, is as follows: The association was organized in April, 1916, under the name of the Dodgeville Social Centre. The first president was Mrs. S. M. Einstein; secretary, Miss Alice Holden. Mrs. Einstein is still the president, and there have been three secretaries since Miss Holden, namely, Mrs. William J. Watson, Mrs. V. T. Barber and Mrs. Lawrence Baer. The original board was composed

of delegates from the various women's clubs of the city; but in 1923 it consisted of representatives from Dodgeville clubs and delegates-at-large. The first clubhouse was one of the mill tenements, but the company, B. B. and R. Knight, made what was the company store over into a clubhouse, which serves as the social centre of the village. Contained therein are clubs for girls of all ages, as well as a woman's club, a boys' club and a men's club. The association is self-supporting, but the company furnish the building, the heat and the light. The organization was instrumental in establishing a kindergarten and a summer school in the village. Both were under the supervision of the association until they came in control of the Board of Education.

The Attleboro Woman's Christian Temperance Union was constituted in April, 1876. The first officers were: President, Mrs. C. E. Kuther; vice-president, Mrs. N. M. Daggett; secretary, Mrs. L. B. Sweet; treasurer, Miss C. C. Thatcher. It was through the efforts of Rev. (Mrs.) Ellen C. Gustin that a convention for Bristol county was held at Attleboro, April 20, that year, and thereupon it was decided to organize a local union.

---

## CHAPTER XI.

### ATTLEBORO COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP.

The Attleboro Community Fellowship came into being in the year 1916, in response to the sense of the need of social education and togetherness. The Attleboro Chamber of Commerce was the pioneer organization in the movement, and, after hearing an address, obtained from Charles H. Pennoyer, at a meeting on March 21, that year, that organization enthusiastically voted approval of the matter. A committee, C. H. Pennoyer, chairman; L. A. Fales, E. D. Gilmore, H. M. Fiske and Samuel Slocumb, was authorized to proceed to organization if the response of other societies warranted doing so. Every society addressed unanimously endorsed the movement and voted to affiliate. When the organization meeting was held October 9th over fifty societies had become part of the plan, and since then the total has gone considerably over one hundred.

The affiliated social units have been: besides the Chamber of Commerce, and its earlier Women's Auxiliary:

Patriotic-Military organizations: D. A. R., G. A. R. and W. R. C., Sons of Veterans and Auxiliary, U. S. W. V. and Auxiliary, Legion and Auxiliary, V. F. W. and Auxiliary, Company I, Company M, 14th Regiment, Company A, now Company I, 101st Regiment, and Special Aid Guard.

Church Civic Units: Congregational Sunday Evening Club, Centenary M. E. Men's Club, K. of C. and Daughters of Isabella, St. Joseph's L. C. B. A., Men's Tuesday Evening Episcopal Club, Baraca Baptist Club, Pilgrim Unitarian Men's Club, Murray Universalist Men's Club, Zion A. M. E. and Paul Laurence Dunbar Clubs, Hebronville Men's, Bethany Congregational Civic Community and Men's Club, Spiritual Progressive Civic Community, R. L. D. S. Progress Club, Sanitarium Monday and Friday Night Clubs, Seventh Day Advent Young People's Club, Advent Christian Men's Class Club, Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters, and Ministers' Social Union.

Social Agencies: Public Health (Anti-Tuberculosis.) and District Nursing Association, the Associated Charities, Red Cross, Y. M. C. A. and Auxiliary, League for



Girls and Women, Girls' Club, King's Daughters, Dodgeville Neighborhood House Association, Dodgeville Social Center Girls' Club and the Men's Club, Hebronville Improvement Association, and Briggs Corner Welfare Association.

Clubs and Unions: Attleboro Woman's Club, Round Table, Etaerio, New Century, North Purchase, Pierian, Chaminade Musical, Angle Tree Stone Rod and Gun, Letter Carriers' Association, Carpenters and Joiners, Musicians' Protective Association.

Fraternal Societies, those which of their own accord took the initiative: Grange, Elks, Dames of Malta, K. of P., I. O. O. F. and the Manchester Unity.

Reform Leagues: League of Women Voters (formerly Equal Suffrage League), Central W. C. T. U., Hebronville W. C. T. U., South Attleboro W. C. T. U., and the General Citizens' Alliance.

Municipal Groups: Police Relief Association, Firemen's Relief Association, Public Library trustees, and Teachers' Association.

Racial Groups, including eight French societies: Artisans, Cercle Lacordaire, L'Union St. Jean Baptiste, L'Ordre des Forestiers, Cour Jeanne Hachette, Francs-Tireurs, Jeanne d'Arc, and the France Club.

Six Scandinavian: Fraternity, Socialist Club, I. O. G. T., Naturalization Society, Order of Vasa, and Swedish Young People's Society.

Three Irish: A. O. H., Emmett Association, Social and Literary Club, Massachusetts.

Four Hebrew: Brith Abraham, Jewish Labor League, Y. M. H. A., and the Y. W. H. A.

Three German: Dionys and Eva Lodges of Deutscher Orden der Harugari, and Mitglieder des Gesang Verein Frofsinn.

Ten others: British Naturalization Social Club, Sons of Italy, Portuguese, Greek, Armenian, Polish, Albanian, Swiss, Syrian, Ukrainian.

Officers elected that October 9th and since have been: General director and chairman, Charles H. Pennoyer; vice-general chairman, Samuel Slocomb; Rev. Fr. Louis A. Dequoy, director neighborhood service; Hugh Gaffney, Gabriel A. Desmarais, Carl A. Anderson, John W. Cody, Rev. E. E. Wells, Rabbi Benjamin Gorovitz, Mrs. Eliza B. Daggett, Mrs. Joseph L. Blaine, Rev. Hjalmar Tillman; general treasurer, Walter L. Gardner, Edward H. Brown; general corresponding secretary, Ernest R. Wernstrom, Mrs. Mary K. Mullaly; general recording secretary, Miss Margaret E. Todd, Miss Kate W. Goff; chairman and secretary finance committee, Harold E. Sweet and Walter O. Lochner; auditor, Harry E. Carpenter; sessional chairmen and department directors: forum, Principal Wm. B. Alexander, Superintendent of Schools Lewis A. Fales and President Joseph Finberg of planning board, Walter F. King, Joseph H. Brohen; music, John L. Gibbs, Lester Earle Moore, Peter J. Colvin, C. Theo. Hoecke, Mrs. Ruth de Hass Balfour, Mrs. Clara E. B. Perry; social, Guy D. Wing, Principal Earle C. Macomber, John B. Cazemiro, Rev. E. B. Hull, Charles A. Pierce, Levon S. Berberian, Louis D. Hunken; Lyceum, Walter A. Briggs; neighborhood service, Mrs. Tilda B. Einstein; recreation, Principal Charles J. Peterson, H. H. Reinhardt; civics, Principal J. F. Smith, G. C. Baker; drama, Mrs. Ella Pease Rogers; dance, Dr. D. Emory Holman; tableaux, Misses Agnes L. and Ethel Balcom; art, George E. Nerney, Joseph H. Appleton, Percy J. Callowhill; community speakers, Judge Ralph C. Estes, Principal Charles O. Dalrymple; history, Thomas S. Carpenter, Dr. Charles A. Moers, Miss Elizabeth J. Wilmarth, Miss Kate W. Goff, Mrs. Lucinda F. Spofford; nature study, Rev. Manly B. Townsend, R. Schuyler Waldron, Clarence E. Richardson, Mrs. Catherina S. Eastwood; social work education, Miss Ruth M. Hyslop; delegates-at-large: Joseph L. Sweet, Wm. L. King, Charles C. Wilmarth, Joseph Finberg, Harold E. Sweet, Samuel M. Einstein, Oscar



Wolfenden, Wm. H. Saart, George A. Sweeney, Maurice J. Baer, Edward P. Chaffin, John E. Anderson, Gabriel A. Desmarais, Thomas E. McCaffrey, and Revs. Ellen G. Gustin, David F. Sheedy, J. L. Mitchell, Alvin E. Worman, Antoine Berube, Thomas J. Horner, George Armstrong, Guy E. Mark; cabinet; officers named, regular and special chairmen and directors, Wm. F. Eastwood, Rev. J. R. Conrad, Dr. Charles A. Moers, Miss E. J. Wilmarth, Principal Norton, Samuel Fine, Jr., Rev. C. W. Porter-Shirley, Rev. V. V. Sawyer.

The A. C. F. is a clearing house center of over one hundred affiliated social units and seventeen school centers. It serves as a coöperative school for civic good judgment and community expression. Its motto is: Culture of all, for the welfare of all, by the coöperation of all. It is a non-sectarian, non-partisan and non-commercial adult continuation school for good citizenship. It would take a line of six numerals to tell the story of remarkably good attendance at the unique mass meetings and other gatherings.

The A. C. F. history periods may be divided into three, those of pre-war, pro-war and post-war service. First, before the war: Forum meetings provided lecturers, with response from floor in which both question and discussion periods were opened by persons of some racial, economic, fraternal or other groups not otherwise represented in the particular evening's program. There were also Lyceum debates and straight lectures. There have been concerts by the Community Chorus and the Community Orchestra and with special groups assisting part. At the regular meetings community sing sessions a part of that period has been taken by such group choruses as French, Swedish, German, Irish, Italian, Portuguese, Swiss, Colored, Y. M. C. A.-K. of C., War Chest, Catholic, Congregational, Episcopalian, Baptist, Universalist, Advent Christian, Christian Scientist, Reorganized Latter Day Saints, Seventh Day Adventist, Sanitarium, also clubs, factories, fraternities and schools; and orchestra and band music by Union Methodist-Baptist orchestra, Wells Family, High School, Italians, Portuguese, Heywood's, Leclairs, Jewelry City, and Eagle bands, and especially by the Musicians Protective Association. The social session at most every meeting has given the general public opportunity to personally meet lecturers, entertainers and other artists and one another. Some groups, not otherwise represented on particular program, have acted as ushers, including chamber of commerce, the municipal units, clubs, social agencies, reform bodies, church auxiliaries, military-patriotic societies, fraternities, Colored, Irish, Swedish, French-Canadian, Hebrew, Italian, Armenian, Polish, Albanian, Ukrainian, British and other units. The community theater nights by local talent have been especially memorable, with largest city auditorium crowded full and at least as many more turned away. Tufts College boys, Wheaton College girls and Boston schools have co-operated in fine dramatic programs. Outdoor and indoor pageants have been popular. The community recreation and mass play programs have been held in form of community picnic, community festival at park, play demonstrations at State Armory and other and part exercises. Community and interpretive dancing programs have been enjoyed on Capron Park green and indoors. The Americanization programs have been outstanding features. Once or twice a year, at first in May and later in February, American citizens of thirty different foreign births—French and English Canadian,

Scotch, English and Irish, Jamaican, Acadian, Swedish, Norwegian and Danish, Finnish, Latvian and Lithuanian, Russian, Ukrainian and Czechoslovak (Bohemian), Polish, Roumanian, and Albanian, Armenian, Syrian, and Greek, Italian, Hungarian (Magyar), and Portuguese, Swiss, Belgian and Dutch, German and others, besides East and native Indians and Negroes,—have told what America and Americanism meant to them and have thus helped to enlighten themselves and others on the rights and duties of citizenship. Special civic and political programs and part programs have been given, and with opportunity for National, State and Municipal candidates to be heard. Educational atmosphere has been given to the Fourth of July celebrations, with noted speakers, and the special recognition of the attainment of voting citizenship by both the naturalized foreign born and the come-of-age native born. The general director was local representative for the Massachusetts Bureau of Immigration, and later of the Division of Americanization of the State Department of Education. Weekly consultations have been given for Community Immigrant Protection service. One special committee, H. F. Howe, Mrs. L. F. Spofford and Carl P. Swanson, have given notable help in sending large class to city school's naturalization classes. Candidates for naturalization have been given instructive, transportation and other help. Circulars and posters have been regularly used. The municipal nights have been very noteworthy occasions, unique in American life, the Honorables Sweet, Brady and Sweeney being successively inaugurated Mayor at mass meetings in connection with the A. C. F. and these executives giving their official messages to the public at such times for forum question and discussion, and suggestion conference with the people in open session. Through all the departments and activities run the motive and method of community unity, the sense and spirit of which make for the vitalization of Attleboro.

Second. During the War: The A. C. F. became very much of a war-education society, especially coöperating with the national, state and municipal government departments. As the community Americanization committee it was a part of the division of the committee on public safety, the general director being specially appointed by the Massachusetts Committee on Public Safety, and the Women's Committee, Massachusetts Division of National Council of Defense by authority and direction of Federal Departments of Interior and Labor. It was early called by official letter from National Council of Defense, Washington, to be "a demonstration unit." War Welfare Work, War Savings Stamps, Food, Fuel Conservation, Nurses. Its community council meetings included Red Cross, Liberty Loan, United Enrollment, Service Men's Aid, Patriotic Rally and Allies' Celebrations, and kindred occasions. Assistance was specially given in meetings for Massachusetts Committee of Citizens of Foreign Birth and Descent. The A. C. F. was the community committee on liberty choruses, and in this service was also a division of the public safety committee. The two dozen or more group choruses were considered liberty chorus units, and these held liberty and victory sings both separately and together. These with others carried our Americanization shields in Armistice Day and other parades. The Fellowship also had charge of local four-minute singing, Massachusetts Division of Four-Minute Men, National Committee on Public Information. In part of this service, at park, it had coöperation of Boston War Service



Unit, War Camp Community Service. The general director was member of the State Community Division, Americanization of Massachusetts, Public Safety Committee. There were Lyceum debates of initiative and referendum and other great issues. The memorial avenue for the World War gold stars was initiated by the A. C. F., one of the very first of such in the country, the committee of which John W. Cody was chairman getting all the trees for Capron Park, and with the City Park Commission co-operating in the completion so that the city could take it over and dedicate it at the welcome home given the World War veterans. Military parades were held in connection with park meetings.

Third, after the war: Big publicity community council meetings were continued for Liberty Loan, Red Cross, Armistice celebration and anniversaries, Community Thanksgiving, Service Men, Salvation Army and other causes. In response to a direct official request from the National Committee on Public Information, Washington, the A. C. F. took over the four-minute-men service, and, acting further on Washington request a new name, that of community speakers, was given. These men have assisted all the various patriotic and social service campaigns, at theaters and elsewhere. They have held annual rallies in the form of community speakers' lyceum debates on government ownership, League of Nations, Federal Department of Education, Centralization and Democracy. In February, 1919, the A. C. F. held the first Americanization week in the country and has continued the same service each year. In 1919 it began the first of five annual weekly Americanization series of articles in the Daily Sun, the first year being local, 1920 by living State Governors, 1921 by National Government Presidents, 1922 by local leaders, and 1923 by general director on local social agencies. Civics and political meetings have been held, new voters' festivals, political symposiums, municipal coöperation in community snow shovel call. On Flag Day, June 14, 1920, called National Neighbors' Day, another new service began, that of school center neighborhood service, when ballots were taken by the pupils of their home, and one or two neighborhood representatives, according to size of school district, were elected from nominees named by ward councilmen. These neighborhood representatives have led in holding Monday neighborhood nights through the year, in those weeks when the regular community mass meetings were not due, local programs being given by adults and pupils of neighborhood, the community speakers striking some special educational note of social or community service, and the homes and schools coming into a better mutual acquaintanceship, school understanding and other good citizenship, as the city school superintendent states in his annual report of this last year. There has been large attendance at all the seventeen school centers at every neighborhood night program, electric lights have been obtained from school committee for eight schools, and the people have installed pianos, song books and other service aids in several schools. The following are the neighborhood representatives: Bank street, James Broadbent and Miss Margaret McClements; Briggs Corner, Alfred W. Brigham; Bliss school, Mrs. Frank H. Davis and Cornelius Perry; Capron school, Mrs. Ada R. Hunken; Carpenter street, Mrs. Maud S. Broadbent; Dodgeville, Walter F. King and Mrs. Eugenia M. Watson; Farmers, Mrs. Aphia G. Carpenter; Hebronville, Mrs. Samuel F. Maine and Mrs. Martin J. Tierney; High



school, Percy J. Callowhill and Mrs. Eva L. Kent; Pleasant street, Thomas F. Williams; Abiathar A. Richardson school, Mrs. Walter B. Allen and Mrs. Florence S. Blake; St. Jean Plat (Sibleyville), Mrs. Annie Mallowes; St. Joseph's parochial school, Gabriel A. Desmarais and Henri D. La Casse; Sanford, Mrs. C. C. Grant and Joseph S. Woodward; South Attleboro, Thomas F. Dean and Mrs. Lillian Hatch; Joseph O. Tiffany school, John B. Cazemiro; Washington street, Clarence E. Greene and Mrs. Frank J. C. Powers.

Local history received first definite attention at the October 20th meeting in 1919, that being the 225th anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Attleboro. Historical dates, events, ideas and ideals have been presented in some degree by indoor and park pageants, by tableaux vivants, by lectures, research, marking and publicity. Assisting Thomas S. Carpenter are Dr. Charles A. Moers, Miss Elizabeth J. Wilmarth, Miss Kate W. Goff and Mrs. Lucinda F. Spofford the secretary of the committee. In January, 1921, the first of three years of weekly Attleboro history articles was started in the Daily Sun with communications with Attleborough, England. Indian relics and other local collections have been shown. Nature study service was begun in April, 1921, under direction of Rev. Manly B. Townsend. Picture and other lectures have been held, the third annual series of "On Nature's Trail" articles is now going in the Daily Sun, and frequent group or community hikes are held. On April 19, 1922, the Attleboro-Diamond Hill trail was formally opened, with nearly one hundred people going the whole way and back, a twenty-two mile tramp. The trail has been cleared, blazed and marked. It leads from Capron Park and runs all the way through the woods or uncultivated clearing, passing Manchester Pond, Rattlesnake Ledge, Attleboro Falls Pond, Hoppin Hill, Angle Tree Stone (boundary stone of old Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay Colonies), shows panorama views of Abbott Run and other country parts, and along the way, too, are rock formations of several of the very oldest geological ages. This trail is on the New England Trail map. Other local trails are planned. Social work welfare programs have been given, for general education on health, economics, penology, temperance, prohibition, law enforcement, constitutional government, international justice and peace and coöperation, with round tables and clinics on social service. National character dances have been given. Community Christmas story hours have been held for the young. Among the noted statesmen brought here have been Wm. J. Bryan, U. S. Secretary of War John W. Weeks, U. S. Senator David I. Walsh, J. Weston Allen and Mrs. Maud Wood Park; educators like State Commissioner Dr. Payson Smith and Dean Holmes of Harvard; social workers like Dr. Edward T. Devine, Mary K. Simkhovitch, Florence Kelley; editors like Hamilton Holt (Independent), J. M. Chapple (National American), and McGregor Jenkins (Atlantic Monthly); artists like Frank Chouteau Brown, Lotta Clark and Loring Underwood; poets like Edwin Markham and Denis McCarthy; international representatives like Mlle. Marguerite Clement (France), Rev. Dugald Macfayden (Britain), Dr. Moissaye J. Olgin and Mary Antin (Russia), Signorina Italia Anita Garibaldi (Italy), Dr. Abraham Mitrie Rihbany (Syria), Dr. Tehyi Hsieh (China), Dr. Toyokichi Iyenaga (Japan), You Chan Yang (Korea), Rustom Rustomjee (Parsee India) and Basanta Koomar Roy (Hindu India), Mufty-zade K. Zia Bey (Turkey), Mme. Aino Malmberg (Finland).

The A. C. F. has been accepted by the Community Chest (the Attleboro Chamber of Commerce pioneering for the Chest at a preliminary meeting on March 21, 1923, the exact 7th anniversary of its similar parallel like preliminary for the A. C. F.). Some day such bodies as the Community Fellowship will be taken over by the school boards, the local community fellowship having been officially endorsed by both the city school committee and by the Municipal City Council. The mayors of Attleboro have superlatively praised the local movement in their inaugural messages. The Attleboro "Daily Sun" in a leading editorial says the movement has "turned unnumbered doubters into enthusiasts and accomplished what many thought impossible." The State Commissioner of Education says, "I have a very high opinion of the importance of this movement and of the efficient results of it." The general director has been asked to provide a pamphlet for the State Department of Education, setting forth the plan as a model for other places to consider. United States Commissioner of Education Claxton called this Attleboro movement the most complete known to him. It has been most favorably noted in natural surveys as a distinct model and a unique plan. The Fellowship is affiliated with the National Community Center Association, the National Playground and Recreation Association of America, the National Open Forum Council, the National Conference of Social Work, the National Education Association, the American Pageant Association, the Drama League of America, the National Community Music League, the Musical Alliance of the United States. Its field being in the realm of intangibles it can see a great deal of room for improvement, but believes that it comes as near fulfilling its mission as any very idealistic movement and all that it needs is more years and more experience to become still more effective.

---

## CHAPTER XII.

### ATTLEBORO'S CLUBS

Attleboro is a city of many clubs, too, and while there is no close federation of all of them, so many opportunities of working together for the general good have presented themselves in recent years that, broadly speaking, it may be stated that while each has its distinctive banner and badge, the following-named organizations exist under a common standard of coöperation and harmony.

**The Attleboro Woman's Club.**—On April 18, 1907, said Mrs. Margaret W. Conro, Woman's Club secretary, a group of sixteen women met at the home of Mrs. Anna Allen to discuss the advisability of forming a Woman's Club. Ten of these women were chosen as a publicity committee to interview women here and learn their sentiments with regard to the project. In May, two meetings were held and the reports of the committee were so favorable, 155 names having been presented for membership, that in June the Attleboro Woman's Club was duly organized. Its membership was to be unlimited and open to women outside of Attleboro, regular meetings were to be held the fourth Thursday of the month at four p. m., beginning



in October and ending in April, and the annual fee was set at one dollar, which price still obtains. The object of the club was to be "culture by public lectures." The first officers were: President, Mrs. Edith Gilpatric; vice-president, Mrs. Louise Bliss; treasurer, Mrs. Annie Mowry; secretary, Mrs. Annie Fales.

The earliest meetings were held at the homes of the members, but the membership increased so rapidly that by November, 1907, the Methodist church auditorium was secured. Later, that did not prove adequate, so High School Hall was obtained. At the present time all meetings are held in the latter place with the exception of the annual business meeting which is generally held in Library Hall. The club has maintained a large membership except during a part of the war period, when many of our noted platform speakers and musicians had given their services to their country, and our women were engaged in war work. These two facts had the inevitable results upon the club—loss of interest and members. But in 1921-22, under the leadership of the president, Mrs. Lida M. Holbrook, a big drive brought the list of members up to one thousand, which had been a coveted goal for some years. This work was so thorough as to counteract the effects of the World War. From its beginning, the Attleboro Woman's Club has been very popular. It did not join the State Federation for the reason that there are already in Attleboro five federated clubs whose members also belong to the Woman's Club. From the first, its officers have taken great pains to maintain a high standard, and although its original object was "culture by public lectures," it has broadened to admit music and plays. The club is justly proud to have had on its programs such names as Dr. Harvey Wiley, William Lyon Phelps, Charles K. Brown, Bliss Perry, Irving Bacheller, Edward Howard Griggs, John Kendrick Bangs, Miss Ida Tarbell, Mrs. Corrinne Roosevelt Robinson (whose lecture on her distinguished brother, Theodore Roosevelt, was so popular people had to be turned away because of lack of seating capacity); Edgar A. Guest, Thomas Masson, Thornton Burgess, Francis Wilson and his noted daughter, Baroness Huard, Dr. Lichliter; also many names well known in the world of music—Maud Powell, whose appearance brought people from quite a distance; Lambert Murphy, Florence Hinkle, Reginald Werrenrath, Ada Sassoli, Mdme. Delcourt, the Kneisel Quartette, the Boston Symphony Orchestral Club, and others whose work was also well received and appreciated. The club has been very fortunate in having been able to procure these celebrated and gifted men and women as speakers, this becoming a source of real inspiration and a valuable educational and cultural force in the development of this city. That this is true is due largely to the earnest efforts and personality of the women who have been its leaders. These presidents are, in the order of their service, as follows: Mrs. Edith Gilpatric, Mrs. Chloe Bigney, Mrs. Carrie Parker, Mrs. Sara B. Manchester, Mrs. Florence B. Theobald, Mrs. Irene T. Hill, Mrs. Ella P. Rogers, Mrs. Etta F. Kent, Mrs. Lida M. Holbrook, and Mrs. Eva L. Kent. The officers for 1923-24: President, Mrs. Eva L. Kent; vice-president, Mrs. Hazelfern Appleton; secretary, Mrs. Margaret W. Conro; treasurer, Mrs. Maboth Hill.

**Other Clubs.**—No country or golf club in the county holds a more



enviable place than that won by the Highland Country Club of Attleboro, both because of select membership, and excellence of location of the club and its affiliation with the best golfing interests. The club started in a small way years before the date of incorporation. But with the increase of the interest in golf and general club and social usages, this organization, with headquarters on Mechanic street, was incorporated January 30, 1911, the principal officers at the time of incorporation being: President, Albro French; secretary, Arthur L. Bottomley; treasurer, Harold E. Sweet. There is a nine-hole course on the property, which is recognized as one of the best in New England, and there are tennis courts, notable tournaments being held by each throughout the season. There are seventeen committees of twenty each who plan for Saturday suppers. The membership is 350, which is the limited number. The officers in 1923: President, Judge Ralph C. Estes; secretary, Mrs. Ethel S. Hollis; treasurer, George F. Lilly; board of directors: Arthur L. Bottomley, Frederic V. Chipman, Samuel M. Einstein, Ralph C. Estes, Edward L. Gowen, Frank E. Guild, Ethel S. Hollis, George F. Lilly, Lawrence P. Keeler, Orville P. Richardson, Joseph L. Sweet, Dr. Charles H. Webb; auditors, Ethel S. Hollis, Howard E. White.

The Pierian Club has distinguished itself in that a number of its members have been officers in the Massachusetts State Federation of Women's Clubs. In the late eighties a group of women proposing to form a study club, interested ten others, and choosing their officers, elected Miss Helen Metcalf to prepare a programme and act as their leader. For awhile afterwards, Miss French was their leader. Dispensing with an individual leader, the club as a whole soon made out their programmes, and assigned literary topics to the different members. The organization became State federated in 1896, then becoming interested in civic work, continuing with literary afternoons, dramatics, speakers and musicales. A memorial to Miss Helen Metcalf was established at the high school which made provision for a prize annually to the pupil performing the best work in English. A group of trees was set out at Capron Park, a summer house was built, and the section named Pierian Grove. Some particular and practical work has been performed annually by the club, with contributions to the Hospital Aid District Nurses, and Associated Charities. In 1922 the special hospital work consisted in furnishing and fitting out one of the maternity wards at the hospital. From a membership of eighteen at the start, it became sixty in 1923. The Massachusetts State Federation of Women's Clubs has honored this club thus: Mrs. H. C. Bliss was appointed assistant clerk; Mrs. W. M. Sturdy a district director; while a number of members have served on various department committees. The club's past presidents: Mrs. Walter Mason, Mrs. Louis Whitmarsh, Mrs. Herbert E. Bliss, Mrs. Harry P. Kent, Mrs. Peter Nerney, Mrs. Joshua Clarke, Mrs. William Wilmarth, Mrs. Frank Bliss, Mrs. Edward Coe, Mrs. Walter Allen, Mrs. Harlan Allen, Mrs. William M. Sturdy.

The Attleboro Round Table is the development of a book club of several years' standing, and, organized October 29, 1895, it now belongs to the State Federation. Its membership, limited to forty at first, has been increased to fifty. Its aim was stated in its first constitution to be "to promote intellectual improvement and social intercourse," and was after-

wards changed to "to promote the general culture of its members." It began with yearly dues of two dollars that had been increased to three dollars, with no assessments. Meetings are held from the first Tuesday of October to the first Tuesday in May, once in two weeks, in the afternoon, usually at the home of some member, except when a special programme with guests requires a larger meeting-place. Generally, the programmes are furnished by the members, and consist of papers, music, readings, dramatics, book reviews, etc. The concluding brief hour or so is reserved for sociability. The first officers were: President, Mrs. Florence M. Sweet; vice-president, Mrs. Alice M. Wales; secretary, Miss Elizabeth J. Wilmarth; treasurer, Mrs. Mabel W. Mason; board of directors: Mrs. Irene T. Hill, Miss Helen Metcalf, Mrs. Harriet S. Rowe, Mrs. Emily L. Richardson, Mrs. Irene M. F. Sanford. The officers for 1923: President, Mrs. Sophia H. Fuller; vice-president, Mrs. Eugenia M. Watson; recording secretary, Mrs. Caroline S. Holden; corresponding secretary, Miss Clara B. Blackinton; treasurer, Mrs. Beatrice T. Green; board of directors: Mrs. Alice M. Wales, Mrs. Bessie A. Engley, Mrs. Polly Vaughn, Mrs. Clara Richards.

One of the oldest clubs for women in the county is the New Century Club, that had its organization in 1897. Just previous to that, twelve Attleboro women accepted an invitation to meet at the home of Mrs. L. Z. Carpenter to formulate plans to start a club, with literary and social purposes in view. Much interest was shown at the outset, so that the club was formally organized in 1897, with a charter membership of eighteen, the constitution and by-laws being prepared by Mrs. Josephine Cobb, Mrs. William Sturdy, and Mrs. Christina Holman. The first president elected was Mrs. Abbie E. Richards. The membership increased to twenty-five, remaining at that number for years; it is now limited to thirty, with a waiting list, which carries three names. The club became State federated in 1905, and was admitted to the General Federation of Women's Clubs in 1922. There were five chartered members surviving in 1923. The officers that year were: President, Mrs. Fred U. Bowen; vice-president, Mrs. Louis A. Wilbur; secretary, Mrs. Robert Shaw; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Frederic C. Rounds; treasurer, Mrs. Albert S. Ingraham; executive board: Mrs. S. W. Hollis, Mrs. C. M. Robbins, Mrs. Joseph Finberg; press chairman, Mrs. Albert Dunham.

Etaerio had its beginning as an afternoon reading circle of South Main street women, started in December, 1894, by Mrs. Ida Knapp and the Misses Alice and Lydia Babcock and some of their neighbors. "Standish of Standish" was read and colonial history studied the first winter and spring, the meetings being held fortnightly on Mondays. The next winter the circle organized as a literary club with thirteen members, Mrs. Arthur Carpenter being president and Miss Lydia Babcock, secretary. The object of the club was the mutual improvement of its members. The charter members were: Miss Melissa Capron, Miss Alice Babcock, Miss Lydia Babcock, Mrs. Lucy B. Sweet, Miss Lucy C. Sweet, Mrs. Arthur B. Carpenter, Mrs. William Tiffany, Mrs. Josephine Gray, Mrs. Hattie Carpenter; Mrs. Ida Knapp, Mrs. George A. Dean, Mrs. Edgar Cummings, and Mrs. O. Cora Chatterton. Miss Melissa Capron and Miss Alice Babcock are the only charter members affiliated with Etaerio in 1923.

The name "Etaerio" was suggested by Miss Capron and Miss Lydia



Babcock—a Greek word meaning “society”. It also has a botanical meaning—a collection of distinct carpels or seeds upon a fleshy receptacle, as the strawberry. The strawberry was chosen as a club emblem, and the red of the strawberry as the club color. The motto “To form of many parts a whole, to make them strong and hold them true, from end to end,” by A. H. Clough, was suggested by Mrs. O. Cora Chatterton. Etaerio changed to an evening club during its first years, and for eight years limited its membership to thirty. The constitution and by-laws were drawn up in 1900 and the club joined the town federation of women’s clubs. In November, 1902, Etaerio became State federated and increased its membership to forty, which it held until May, 1923, when the limit was raised to fifty.

The early sentiment of the club was for a purely literary organization, philanthropic work being done by the members in their churches or societies devoted to such work. This policy has been largely followed, although the progress of the times demands occasional donations for community and federation calls. Of the five State federated clubs of Attleboro, Etaerio is the only club holding evening meetings. There is no town federation in existence now, but the five clubs are joining in a current events program for the season 1923-1924. The lectures are to be given by Mrs. Grace Morrison Poole, the Massachusetts State federation president, each club financing one lecture. Etaerio meets the second and fourth Tuesday evenings, from the fourth Tuesday in September to the second Tuesday in May, which is the annual meeting. The first meeting in December is always celebrated as “birthday night”. Literary programs of study are taken up each season. The programs sometimes follow one subject for the entire season, and sometimes take in many subjects at the option of the program committee. There were forty-two members at the beginning of the 1923-1924 season. The officers for 1923-24: Miss Ethel I. Macdonald, president; Mrs. Hazel-fern Appleton, vice-president; Miss Alice Enbom, recording secretary; Mrs. Berthe Mason, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Mae Blaikie, treasurer; Miss Lillian Fisher, custodian. Miss Laura Moore, Miss Frances Bottomley, and Mrs. Helen Manchester, program committee.

The North Purchase Club of Attleboro was formed in October, 1900, with thirty charter members, the title being made use of because of this historical fact: Captain Thomas Willett, successor to Myles Standish as captain of the Plymouth military company, was the original purchaser in 1661 of Rehoboth North Purchase, or Attleboro, from Wamsutta, eldest son of Massasoit, then the sachem of Pokanoket. The club prepares a literary programme and gives special attention to the current events of the day, while substantial sums are given to local charities, notably the District Nursing Association and the Hospital Aid Association. The presidents of the society in the order in which they have served are as follows: Mrs. Gertrude Bigelow, Mrs. Gertrude Kendall, Mrs. Mary Arthur, Mrs. Irma Webb, Miss Amy White, Mrs. Florence Theobald, Mrs. Edith Gilpatric, Mrs. Abbie Hill, Mrs. Ada Bottomley, Miss Edith Claffin, Mrs. Ella Thompson, Mrs. Nancy Baker, Mrs. Edith Nerney, Mrs. Margaret Conro, Mrs. Ella Rogers, Mrs. Olive Fargo. The membership of the club in 1923 was forty; and the officers then serving were: President, Mrs. Nancy Baker; vice-president, Mrs. Edith Smith; secretary, Mrs. Florence Theobald;



treasurer, Mrs. Louise Wilmarth; directors: Mrs. Edna French, Mrs. Mary Ford, Mrs. Lucinda Spofford.

Attleboro Chapter, D. A. R., was formed June 27, 1901, due to the personal efforts of Mrs. Marion Carter, a member-at-large, with a membership of thirty-six, writes the historian, Mrs. Ruth B. Worrall. The chapter has placed markers on all the graves of the soldiers of the Revolutionary War in the Attleboro cemeteries. In 1912 a fitting tribute to the patriots of the Revolution was erected in Capron Park, in the shape of a bronze tablet. Among the many branches of the chapter's work was that which secured the organization of the Working Girls' Club, and which continued its upkeep until the club became self-supporting. The past regents are as follows: Mrs. Marion Carter, Mrs. Carrie Parker, Miss Melissa Capron, Mrs. Florence Blake, Mrs. Mary E. Sweeney, Mrs. Clara Perry, Mrs. Ruth Balfour, Mrs. Fannie Callowhill, Mrs. Philomene Vose, Mrs. Dorothy R. Worman. The chapter in 1923 consisted of one hundred and seven members. In the latter part of 1902, Sabra and Lydia Peck sold their homestead to Attleboro Chapter for the chapter house, and the building was removed to its present site, a few rods from the original spot. This was once a part of the home of Hezekiah Peck, that was built by Henry Sweet or his son Thomas in the latter part of the sixteenth century. A more appropriate chapter house could not have been found, the lot itself having been in one family for two hundred and fifty years.

The Chaminade Club of Attleboro, writes Mrs. Leonilda Sweeney, the secretary, was organized in 1912 by ten young women musicians. It was then called the B Natural Club. Its aim has been always to "further the general study of music." In 1914 the club joined the National Federation of Musical Clubs, and in the same year the name was changed to the Chaminade Club, after Mme. Chaminade. In recognition of our name, Mme. Chaminade has presented the club with an autographed book of her music, her autographed photograph, and has written us this year, 1923, she is composing a song for mixed female voices for us. The club is now composed of forty active members, forty-six associate. The officers for the year are: Mrs. Florence Coe, president; Mrs. Marie Sweet, 1st vice-president; Mrs. Kathleen Rounseville, 2nd vice-president; Mrs. Leonilda Sweeney, secretary; Miss Edna Butterworth, treasurer. This club has under its supervision a Junior Chaminade Club, ages 14 to 18; a Juvenile Chaminade Club of pupils 14 years and under. Each year a concert is given by members for the benefit of the Attleboro Public Library Music Fund. Also in the past, free concerts have been given to the public of Attleboro, and have had Madame MacDowell and Mme. Beach in concert in Attleboro.

The Philharmonic Society is an organization that popularizes music and its aims in Attleboro in a way that has won for it a multitude of friends. The society was organized by and its preliminary meeting was called by T. O. Mullaly, C. Ed. Bruce and E. Lacroix. At the first meeting for business March 7, 1921, the following-named officers were elected: President, J. L. Wiggmore; vice-president, W. Hugh Pickering; treasurer and custodian of music, C. Ed. Bruce; secretary and manager, T. O. Mullaly; director, Lester E. Moore. A room was hired in Odd Fellows' build-

ing; and the club made its first appearance at Wrentham Town Hall, November 18, 1821, under the auspices of the Holly Club, the ensemble at that time being as follows: tenors—Harold Strong, Harry Fisher, A. A. Doty, C. Ed. Bruce, George S. Bliven, John Washington, R. Richards, W. E. Briggs, and T. O. Mullaly; second tenors—Remi Desmarais, W. Henry Blake, Christopher T. Sullivan, Leon Simms, William F. Rogers; baritone—James L. Wiggmore, Sr., James L. Wiggmore, Jr., Nelson Fonteneau, Frank LeClaire, Fred Dietz, Jr., W. W. Rogers, W. F. Barden, A. Goodwin; basses—Fred Dietz, Sr., J. Butman, W. Hugh Pickering, L. P. Brown, John Adams. The club is assisted at its concerts by Miss McQuade, pianist; Ralph Stutzner, violinist; Howart Patt, tenor soloist; Lester Moore, director.

The preliminary meeting having in view the formation of the Attleboro Young Men's Christian Association was held in the Methodist Church, October 10, 1867; the second, in the Second Congregational Church on October 22, when a constitution was adopted and the following officers elected: President, N. C. Luther; vice-president, J. O. Tiffany; secretary and treasurer, C. G. Hill; standing committee: C. E. Bliss, C. L. Fuller, C. E. Carpenter, and Freeman Robbins. Among the charter members were Rev. F. N. Peloubet and Rev. A. Anderson, then pastors of the Second Congregational and Methodist churches respectively. For more than twenty years a thorough work was in progress under the auspices of this organization, the main activities being conducted along religious lines in their reading rooms, located successively in the Dean, Pierce and Bates blocks along Park street, where Sunday afternoon meetings were held. Religious services were occasionally held in the outlying districts.

In 1888 the Attleboro Young Men's Christian Association was incorporated, when a more extended work was contemplated and the association looked forward to the erection of a building of its own. The cornerstone of this building was laid in 1889 just off Park street, on County street. The building was well located, planned and equipped for the religious, physical and social development of young men, and cost about \$10,000. This building did good service for the following twenty years until it in turn was outgrown, a site being then secured on North Main street near the Public Library. On the rear of this lot a gymnasium building was erected from funds contributed by the public, and in 1909 the cornerstone was laid of a new brick and sandstone three-story and basement Memorial Y. M. C. A. attached to and just in front of the gymnasium. Mrs. Fannie M. Tappan gave \$60,000 to erect and equip this building as a memorial to her husband, it to be named the "William C. Tappan Memorial." Her gift for this purpose was one of the largest public bequests ever made in Attleboro, and for fifteen years this building has amply met the requirements of the growing city, being equipped with swimming pool, shower baths, reading and game rooms, study and lecture halls, while on the third floor are fourteen dormitory rooms. In this building three trained secretaries are in charge of the activities. Among those who have served as presidents in the past were the following: N. C. Luther, C. E. Bliss, H. M. Daggett, S. W. Gould, A. V. Cobb, J. M. Fisher, W. E. Sanford, Z. C. Collins, E. W. Thrasher, H. T. Regnall, F. W. Lincoln, A. R. Macomber, Dr. H. H. Ams-



den, E. A. Remington, E. F. Thayer, E. M. Bliss, J. J. Thacher, E. L. Ford, L. S. Chilson.

With every member a lover of the out-of-doors, and a thorough believer in legitimate sport, the Angle Tree-Stone Rod and Gun Club of the Attleboros may well be accounted one of the leading sportsmen's clubs in the State, if not in New England, as its membership in 1923 was 450. All sections of the township from the first have become interested in the club's purposes and programmes, and, organized at first in North Attleboro, meetings have been held alternately in North and South Attleboro. Raymond C. Collins and other sportsmen assisted in launching the club, the first meeting having been held in Red Men's Hall in North Attleboro. The first officers elected were Dr. Willis Hale of North Attleboro, president; secretary and treasurer, Everett Palmer of Attleboro. For a few years thereafter, interest dwindled. Through the efforts of Frank Nerney, well known devotee of the rod and gun, the activities of the club were renewed in 1921, and Mr. Nerney served two years as president. The secretary was Everett White and the treasurer Walter McAlpin, both of North Attleboro. The president in 1923 was Orrin C. Clifford, the former secretary and treasurer retaining their positions. The club has been entertained by President Clifford at his camp at Mirimichi lake, North Attleboro. The name of the organization was derived from that of the Angle-Tree stone near the Draper Farm, North Attleboro, which was the dividing mark of the Plymouth and the Narragansett Bay colonies. The club from the first has been awake to the need of re-stocking the streams and ponds of this section of New England, black bass and trout being the kind of fish with which they have been the means of supplying the waters hereabouts. William C. Adams, head of the State Fish and Game Commission, is an honorary member of the club, and has been of great assistance in such matters. The club is forwarding its annual plans for shooting events in the fall and get-together meetings. They have annual banquets, with the mayor of Attleboro and the president of the Rhode Island Game Commission as speakers.

West Side Men's Club originated about the year 1893, for social and fraternal purposes, the first meetings being held in the old Pierce building that later was burned; and from that time in the Odd Fellows' building. The founders of the club were A. A. McRae, A. T. Smith and C. P. Keeler. The club today has a representative membership of the business men of the Attleboros and Mansfield. The officers are as follows: President, Joseph Rioux; vice-president, Fred Bishop, of North Attleboro; secretary and treasurer, F. H. Hill; house committee: Joseph Rioux, A. S. Blackinton, Dr. Griffin of Mansfield, Ivo Brownell, Chester Ashley.

Joseph Heywood, for many years prominent in musical circles in the town, writes for this work some of his recollections of musical events and people, thus:

The first musicale that I attended outside of the church, was a large chorus that was directed by a Mr. Pond, formerly of Foxboro, upon which occasion we gave an Old Folks concert in the old Union Hall, now Sweeney's store, in the winter of 1869-1870. It was in 1872 that the Harmonic male quartet was formed, that aggregation being composed of D. H. Smith, H. A. Bodman, George Gilson and Joseph Heywood. For the long period of twenty years, this quartet sang together, and they gave some



very fine entertainments. They have all passed away with the exception of Mr. Heywood. In 1885 there was a large male chorus in Attleboro of some forty-five voices, they being directed by Joseph Heywood. On October 17, that year, they presented their first concert of war songs, and their audiences gave them a great send-off. The concert was given in Union hall. Then in turn followed a ladies' chorus of forty or fifty voices, very good voices, indeed, and Mr. Heywood was chosen director. At the end of a season the two choruses blended in organization and in voice to form one grand chorus, they giving a series of concerts. April 23, 1884, the combined choruses gave a splendid concert at Park hall, when they were assisted by Miss Woodward of the Boston Conservatory of Music, Jules Jorden of Providence being the director. The chorus also had the assistance of the Harmonic quartet. The name of this society was the Attleboro Choral Union. After a short period the latter disbanded. Then H. A. Bodman formed a choral union, which, at the close of a season gave a very fine concert at the White Church. This was their only concert. A season afterwards, a Mr. Hazelwood, teacher of voice, came here and formed a class, or union, and for one season his teaching and training was most popular. As a result, we sang in the old White Church, the cantata "Belshazzar's Feast." At that time the churches began to form their quartets and choirs, so that public musical societies were no longer the vogue.

Company C Association is one of the old-time Republican campaign clubs of this section that had its beginning in Attleboro during the Garfield and Arthur campaign in the autumn of 1880. The society was reorganized at the time of the Blaine and Logan campaign; and the permanent organization was formed November 4, 1884, at Room 19, in the Horton block, when the first officers were: President, E. S. Norton; vice-presidents, George A. Adams and E. W. Rhodes; secretary, Fred L. Morse; treasurer, John McDonald; executive committee: C. H. Chappell, W. H. Blaney, W. L. King, E. S. Horton, B. J. Angell. The association had its largest membership in the nineties, the number being over 200.

Oak Hill Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, was organized June 21, 1896, with thirty-three charter members, the first master of the Grange being Oscar S. Thayer. In 1923 there were 175 members and the officers were: Master, W. E. S. Smith; overseer, Samuel W. Cash; secretary, Mrs. Maud Smith; treasurer, E. V. Carpenter; lecturer, Mrs. Stella Warren.

The Attleboro Poultry Association was incorporated June 12, 1913, its objects being to promote the interests of poultry breeders, both for exhibition and utility purposes; to encourage high standards in its exhibitions, and to increase the efficiency of its members by the exchange of ideas and business methods. Annual exhibitions have been conducted and premiums and prizes awarded. From the first the officers have been: President, W. H. Saart; vice-presidents, Thomas Wilson, John Hickey, Clifford Thurber; secretary, H. E. Sibley; treasurer, Frank Hutchinson; executive committee: Otto Ockert, Dr. George Jenkins, H. A. Pike, F. E. Whiting, A. Penny, F. Middleton, E. B. Macdonald, H. White, C. Gill.

---

## CHAPTER XIII.

### MILITARY AND FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

Reunions of those who were comrades in successive war-time periods have developed a number of military-social groups, with their auxiliaries, and maintaining their distinctive Attleboro traditions and usages. Some of

the fraternal organizations here have been numbered among the oldest in the State.

**Grand Army of the Republic.**—William A. Streeter Post, No. 145, G. A. R., was instituted only six years after the close of the Civil War. The first Memorial Day service in the town was held Saturday, May 29, 1869, the address being given by Rev. Rufus P. Stebbins, D. D., of Cambridge. A meeting of soldiers and sailors of the war belonging to this section was held for the purpose on May 26, with J. B. Savery as chairman, and E. R. Read secretary, and E. S. Horton was chosen marshal for the day. This was probably the beginning of active interest in the institution of the post, which was mustered in on June 12, 1871, at Union Hall. The first regular meeting place after that was at Bates Hall, in August of the same year; in September removal was made again to Union Hall; the following spring, in 1872, the post gathered at Dean's building, and on August 11, 1873, permanent meetings began to be held at Briggs block and in the old Y. M. C. A. building. In 1872 the town began to make its regular appropriation for the expenses of the Memorial Day observance. The post was presented with State flags July 4, 1872, by the women of the East Village, and in January, 1877, by the women of Attleboro. Their altar was presented November 3, 1876, by the Women's Relief Corps. The headquarters of the post have many interesting relics of the war; and the post owns a lot in Woodlawn cemetery with a suitable monument.

These are the post commanders from the first: D. H. Smith, E. S. Horton, E. C. Martin, A. T. Wales, W. H. Wade, W. H. Goff, W. J. Thompson, Edwin J. Horton, M. Q. Wheaton, E. W. Rhodes, F. L. LeBaron, T. K. Gay, George L. Jillson, E. D. Guild, George A. Taylor, Edwin Leach, Daniel E. Adams, Edwin Leach, Cyrus Getchell, Edward E. Rhodes, Welcome B. Aldrich, Nathan H. Read.

In 1906 the town voted to erect a monument to the memory of the soldiers and sailors who had enlisted from Attleboro and lost their lives in the War of 1861-1865, and a committee of seven was appointed to carry the project through. As a result, a monument was set up at Monument square, at a cost of \$8,500, and the memorial was dedicated, with the assistance of William A. Streeter Post, No. 145, G. A. R., June 20, 1908. The committee consisted of Everett S. Horton, William H. Goff, Edward Caufy, Emmons D. Guild, George A. Sweeney, Charles O. Sweet, Edward A. Sweeney. In 1922, an avenue, at right angles to the memorial avenue at Capron Park, and running south, was named G. A. R. avenue, the dedication being accompanied with the presence of a Confederate veteran.

William A. Streeter Woman's Relief Corps, No. 45, was instituted September 18, 1884, by Mrs. Sarah B. Fuller, department secretary, with twenty-two members. The corps, which had a membership of 156 in 1923, dedicated the entrance for the G. A. R. avenue at Capron Park, Memorial Sunday that year. Upon that avenue they have planted a tree for every past commander of the post, and in time there will be planted a tree for every member. The organization of patriotic women has placed flags in all schools and in all Sunday school rooms, and provided flags for the Boy Scouts. In 1914 the corps was honored by having one of its members elected department president of Massachusetts, and Mrs. Laura I. Smith, who was accorded that honor, was elected national senior vice-president the



following year. The first president of the corps was Mrs. Lucy B. Marton. Past presidents in succession have been: Maria McDonald, 1890; E. Jennie Sweet, 1892; Laura I. Smith, 1896; Lucy A. Walker, 1900; Mary P. Holbrook, 1901; Sarah W. Holmes, 1902; Lilla Crosby, 1904; Sarah Smith, 1905; Jennie Smith, 1907; Mamie Robinson, 1908; Laura I. Smith, 1909; Louisa Williams, 1912; Florence Swallow, 1913; Emma McCretton, 1914; Kate Williamson, 1915; Minnie Inman, 1916; Hattie Freeman, 1917; Mae Porter, 1918; Mary L. White, 1920; R. May Guyot, 1921; Sarah Gale, 1922; Martha Sylvia, 1923.

**Sons of Veterans.**—The present William A. Streeter Camp, No. 133, Sons of Veterans, was instituted in March, 1921, with twenty-seven charter members, the work of organization having been forwarded to success by Commander Harold E. Kenyon. The S. V. C. was Frank A. Chase, jr.; the J. V. C., Arthur A. Whipple; the treasurer, Harry E. Cooper; secretary, Roy W. Inman. Mr. Kenyon resigned his command in 1922, and was succeeded by W. W. Peckham. The S. V. C. was A. T. Gunner; the J. V. C., Henry Pierce. The membership in 1923 was eighty-nine, and the officers were: Commander, A. T. Gunner; S. V. C., R. E. Sherman; J. V. C., C. H. Bliss, with the same secretary and treasurer as at first. Two camps had been started previously—one in April, 1884, with a charter membership of twenty-three, and with the following-named officers: Captain C. Adin Smith; first lieutenant, O. W. Hawkins; second lieutenant, E. H. Davis; chaplain, George Pierce; orderly sergeant, W. H. Streeter; quartermaster-sergeant, E. A. Wales; color sergeant, C. H. Meyers; sergeant of the guard, J. A. Thayer; corporal of the guard, L. A. Wales; camp guard, L. B. Kingman; picket guard, J. F. Woodward; principal musician, F. I. Jackson. After a few years this camp disbanded, and it in turn was followed by another similar organization. The present camp has a flourishing and progressive status. With the organization of the new camp, an auxiliary was formed.

William A. Streeter Auxiliary, S. of V., No. 133, was instituted in April, 1921, by Margaret Waters, past division president. There were fifty-three charter members, and Lorrian Hyde Kenyon was given the honor of the past presidency. The first officers were the following-named: President, Gertrude Eldridge; vice-president, Maude Card; chaplain, Lucy Walker; treasurer Minnis E. Inman; secretary, Gertrude Whitney; patriotic instructor, Annie Clark; guide, Mary Morrison; assistant guide, Evelyn Slater; color guards, Lois Vickery and Elvira Coyne; inside guard, Nellie Cummings; outside guard, Martha King; press correspondent, Maude Vickery; musician, Melvina Hilkins; judge advocate, Harold Kenyon. The following year, the officers were reëlected. In 1923 they were: President, Georgianna Knight; vice-president, Etta Gunner; chaplain, Lena Bell; treasurer, Grace Gunner; secretary, Anne K. Jost; patriotic instructor, Josephine Peckham; guides, Mary Morrison and Evelyn Slater; color guards, Agnes Fisher and Agnes Fittz; inside guard, Edith Tillson; outside guard, Lena Sherman; press correspondent, Elizabeth Stearns; pianist, Grace Austin; past president, Gertrude Eldridge; judge advocate, Albert Gunner. There was a membership of seventy-two in 1923.

**Spanish War Veterans.**—Major Herbert A. Clark Camp, No. 45, U. S.



W. V., observed its fifteenth anniversary January 10, 1923. During the latter part of the year 1907, writes Carl J. Gronvald (thirteen years quartermaster of the camp), headed by Major George H. Sykes, the war captain of Company I, Fifth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, several of the men who had served in contingents in the Spanish War began to hold preliminary meetings at the old G. A. R. Hall, corner Bank and Park streets, Major Sykes presiding as commander *pro tem.*, Captain Lawrence W. Cook as adjutant, and Alfred P. Whitehill as quartermaster. At these meetings it was decided to name the camp after Major Herbert A. Clark, who served as major of the Fifth Massachusetts Infantry during the war with Spain. The first officers elected were as follows: Commander, George H. Sykes; S. V. C., Joel M. Nichols; J. V. C., James W. Rhind; officer of the day, Max London; officer of the guard, Frank J. Blaine; surgeon, George A. Menard; trustees for three, two and one years respectively: Carl J. Gronvald, Harry C. Brandt, Frank C. Abbott; and the commander made the following appointments: Adjutant, Captain Lawrence W. Cook; quartermaster-sergeant, Edward M. Spencer. The camp mustered in, January 10, 1908. Captain Lawrence W. Cook was appointed commander in place of Major Sykes, who declined to serve, for business reasons. William H. Chadbourne was appointed adjutant in place of Commander Cook.

The Camp had its first inspection February 7; and on May 30 attended its first Memorial Day service, that has been the usage ever since. Uniforms were secured that year, and a \$100 set of colors purchased. There were forty-eight names on the charter list in September. In December the Camp commenced to hold meetings at Barden's Hall, and June 1, 1911, admitted as a member James E. Murphy, who was a member of the crew of the "Merrimac" when that ship was sunk in Santiago harbor. May 17, 1917, the members of the camp offered their services to the mayor, and Liberty bonds were purchased June 7 and October 8. The year closed with sixty-three members. The present quarters on Pine street have been U. S. W. V. headquarters since 1919. The camp has participated in all the World War events, and in various of the municipal parades. The past commanders: Lawrence W. Cook, 1908-09; Joel M. Nichols, 1910; Charles E. Cunningham, 1911, and part of 1912; Charles H. Card, balance of 1912; William F. Douglas, 1913; Jacob Eugster, 1914; Felix Dorsett, 1915; Walter E. Gorman, 1916-17; Clyde R. Barnhill, 1918; Maurice Wheeler, 1919; Herbert E. Bennett, 1920; Charles H. Card, 1921; Walter N. Jutras, 1922.

A Ladies' Auxiliary for the camp was formed March 23, 1910. Mrs. W. E. Gorman was the first president. The officers in 1923: President, Mary Lee; S. V. P., Fabiola Jutras; J. V. P., Anna Jackson; chaplain, Caroline Videtto; secretary, Inez Cunningham; treasurer, Alice Burnhill; historian, Mollie McEnroe; patriotic instructor, Agnes Wing.

**American Legion.**—The call for the organization of a Post of the American Legion in Attleboro was effected by Captain Charles T. Crossman and Herbert C. Crowell. The first meeting for organization was held at Chamber of Commerce headquarters, May 26, 1919, with the following named attending: Captain Charles T. Crossman, Herbert C. Crowell, C. Raymond Carpenter, John A. Ferguson, Earl Williams, Joseph L. Fuller, William Ebert. The next meeting was held a week later, at the residence of C. Raymond Carpenter, when it was decided that the post be represented

at the Worcester convention of the Legion, June 6, 1919. By that time twenty-one members were enrolled. Messrs. Crossman, Crowell, Carpenter, Lawson and Pinkham represented the post at the convention, where the charter was received. Five members represented the post at the national convention in November, and Captain Crossman was a delegate to the national convention at Minneapolis. These were the first officers: Commander, John A. Ferguson; vice-commander, C. Raymond Carpenter; adjutant, Herbert C. Crowell; treasurer, Dr. John A. Reese; trustees, Charles T. Crossman and G. Roger Sturtevant. Officers in 1920: Commander, Harold Semple, upon whose resignation Dr. John W. Clarke was elected to that position; vice-commander, Lawson Pinkham; finance officer, Dr. John A. Reese; assistant finance officer, Herbert S. Faulkner; adjutant, C. Raymond Carpenter; sergeant-major, Joseph C. Fuller; chaplain, Harry Chalmers; historian, Solomon Rotenberg. The officers in 1921: Commander, Dr. Joshua W. Clark; first V. C., Raymond Knight; second V. C., Daniel Lammond; adjutant, C. Raymond Carpenter; finance officer, Dr. John A. Reese; Chaplain, Charles T. Crossman; historian, Frank H. Straker; sergeant-major, Miss Catherine Woodward; assistant finance officer, Frederick Hawkins; sergeant-at-arms, John A. Ferguson. The membership of the local Legion in 1923 was about 200. The organization purchased the J. M. Bates estate on North Main street, and furnished the barn in the property as club-rooms. The officers for 1922: Commander, Forster C. Burbank; S. V. C., Ralph Simmonds; J. V. C., Charles B. Cooper; chaplain, Peter Whalley; adjutant, Fred Walker; finance officer, Fred Hawkins; assistant finance officer, Harold Bates; sergeant-major, Frank White, Jr.; historian, Pearl Baker. For 1923: Commander, Charles B. Cooper; S. V. C., Emory Boudreau; J. V. C., Lindred C. Thurber; chaplain, Peter Whalley; finance officer, Anton Butziger; assistant finance officer, John Ferguson; adjutant, Alfred H. Patterson; sergeant-major, Edward Martineau; historian, Pearl Baker.

The Women's Auxiliary unit of Attleboro Post, No. 20, American Legion, was organized at the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, January 19, 1920, with the following-named officers: President, Alice A. Clarke; vice-president, Rosamond Carpenter; treasurer, Lizetta Fiske; secretary, Minnie L. Wiggmore; assistant secretary, Ethel Faulkner. The temporary charter was received April 5, 1920. Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Carpenter and Mrs. Crossman were delegates to the State convention at Boston. The officers for 1921: President, Alice A. Clarke; vice-president, Clara Jeffers; secretary, Rosamond Carpenter; treasurer, Florence Lamond; chaplain, Annie Geddes; guard, Gertrude Bates; conductress, Nabby Coffey. The Legion and Auxiliary visited Norfolk Hospital on Christmas eve, and entertained the Norfolk post at a basket-ball game at the armory, January 7. The first meeting at the Legion Home, 120 North Main street, was held May 2, 1921. Dinner was served all ex-service men at the Legion Home, Memorial Day, 1921. The W. R. C. presented the auxiliary with an altar-cover June 6, and the Spanish War Veterans Auxiliary presented them with a gavel. Officers for 1922: President, Alice A. Clarke; first vice-president, Alice Angell; second vice-president, Mary Patterson; secretary, Ethel Faulkner; treasurer, Florence Lamond; chaplain, Florence Straker; sentry, Gertrude Bates; historian, Jessie Walker.

From May 9, the name was changed to American Legion Auxiliary.



On Mothers' Day, in May, the members of the auxiliary called upon every gold-star mother. The banquet this year for ex-service men was in charge of Mrs. Emma Allen, and the auxiliary assisted the Red Cross membership drive and the tuberculosis stamp drive. Officers for 1923: President, Alice Angell; first vice-president, Gertrude Crossman; second vice-president, Mary Patterson; secretary, Ethel Faulkner; treasurer, Myrtle Baker; chaplain, Florence Straker; conductor, Gladys Moore; guard, Gertrude Bates; historian, Vera Palmer. There was a public installation January 16. The May festival was conducted by the Legion, with Mrs. Roy C. Woodworth of the auxiliary as chairman. The membership August 1, 1923 was 241.

**Veterans of Foreign Wars.**—Almost upon the arrival home of the men who shared in the World War, the work of organizing a Post of Veterans of Foreign Wars was begun. First meetings were held in Spanish War Veterans Hall, and on the evening of March 21, 1918, Gilbert-Perry Post was formed as a memorial to Jerome F. Gilbert and Joseph Perry, two Attleboro boys who lost their lives in the war. At about the same time the new post organized a drum and bugle corps. The first officers were: Commander, John H. Candelet; senior vice-commander, Joseph Gilbert; junior vice-commander, Roy Matteson; adjutant, Roy Gronvald. The Veterans have been occupying their County street hall since 1919. In succession, the presidents of the post have been Joseph Gilbert, Thomas Monahan, and in 1923, Otis Barton. The other officers in 1923: Senior vice-commander, Harry Alette; junior vice-commander, J. Davignon; adjutant, William Wetherell; quartermaster, Carl J. Gronvald; quartermaster-sergeant, William Beland; chaplain, Harry Lessart.

The Ladies' Auxiliary to Gilbert-Perry Post, V. F. W., was formed October 20, 1919, with forty charter members. The first officers were: President, Maud Candelet; senior vice-president, Hattie Burns; junior vice-president, Martha Sylvia; treasurer, Alice Cronan; secretary, Jennie Cronan; chaplain, Elsie Cook; conductress, Ethel White; historian, Mildred Matteson; patriotic instructor, Esther Flanagan. The president in 1921 was Martha Sylvia; and the leading officers in 1922 and 1923: President, Mary McDonald; secretary, Lola Seeton; treasurer, Sadie Witherell. There were 104 members in 1923.

**Company I Association.**—The present Company I Association, as organized in 1923 by Captain Charles T. Crossman and a number of other veterans of wars, has for its purpose the perpetuation of the name and patriotic aims of the old Company I, Fifth Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteers, that was mustered into service June 15, 1861. At the first meeting for organization in 1923, there were thirty-two charter members, and the membership the latter part of that year numbered ninety-seven, the officers being Captain Charles T. Crossman, president; Major George H. Sykes, vice-president; David L. Low, secretary; Ernest F. Childs, treasurer; Fred Northup, historian. The outline of the story of Company I during the Civil War has been told in the chapter relating to that event. For years after the war, and after that company had been disbanded, a desire had been expressed to form an independent military company here, and the opportunity to do so came in 1887, when under a new law, the military force of the State was increased.



With the preliminary meeting in Engine Hall, October 5, 1887, and with temporary organization effected, George A. Adams was elected captain, Thomas K. Gay first lieutenant, O. P. Richardson, Jr., second lieutenant. There were sixty-four charter members, and on November 18, 1887, the company was mustered into service by Colonel Bancroft as Company I, Fifth Regiment, M. V. M., the names of the original company being as follows: George A. Adams, George L. Bullard, Bradford Bullock, C. E. Briggs, F. B. Eldridge, Thomas K. Gay, E. L. Gowen, O. W. Hawkins, F. E. Keeler, Charles Allen, E. H. Briggs, W. B. Bliss, H. A. Clark, A. G. Fuller, F. C. Gray, L. F. Goff, A. S. Ingraham, O. A. Knight, W. B. Allen, A. S. Blackinton, jr., C. T. Burr, J. D. Chilson, C. F. Forrester, A. A. Guild, W. H. Goff, L. B. Kingman, D. L. Lowe, J. H. Lewis, W. T. Mason, Samuel McCartney, A. W. Parmenter, G. F. Power, C. F. Rhodes, C. H. Swift, C. A. Sturdy, F. E. Tripp, D. E. Wilmarth, H. C. Luther, Eugene Martin, T. T. McAdams, G. A. Pierce, O. P. Richardson, jr., C. E. Richards, G. E. Snow, David Smiley, E. A. Taylor, G. O. Wilmarth, E. F. Young, F. L. Morse, R. D. Manchester, G. C. Parker, H. R. Packard, A. M. Richards, C. A. Richardson, G. H. Sykes, F. E. Smith, J. F. Woodard, M. L. Wood; and February 27, 1888, the following-named were also mustered in: F. E. Allen, F. C. Power, O. P. Bliss, I. W. Smith, J. E. Pagney, George White.

These were the first commissioned officers of the company: Captain William H. Goff; First lieutenant George A. Adams; Second lieutenant O. P. Richardson, jr., and the non-commissioned officers appointed by the captain were: Sergeants—Fred L. Morse, Herbert A. Clark, Thomas K. Gay, D. E. Wilmarth, Clarence E. Richards; corporals—Frank E. Keeler, George H. Sykes, Amos S. Blackinton, Charles A. Sturdy. From the time of its first inspection, Company I held a high place, and it has always maintained that standard. Regimental field day manœuvres were held here in 1890 as a compliment to the company. In 1896, Captain William H. Goff retiring, Herbert Clark was elected captain. George H. Sykes was appointed the captain of the company upon the retirement of Captain Clark in 1897, and so continued through the period of the Spanish-American War. Upon the reorganization of the company after that war, Charles A. Richardson was captain, his brother O. P. Richardson, Jr., having been an officer in the company previously. Upon his retirement in 1900, William H. Goff, Jr., became the company's chief officer, his father, William H. Goff, having been the original captain. In 1904, Fred Northrup was captain, and so continued to 1906, when the office was held by Lawrence Cook. In 1913, Thomas J. Williams was the captain, and with it went to the Mexican border, when Charles T. Crossman was first lieutenant, and Henry Neville second lieutenant. The company was called out to the service of the World War, July 25, 1917. In August, 1917, it was broken up at Framingham, and merging with the Ninth Massachusetts formed the 101st. Thus closed the military history of Company I and of the Fifth Regiment as such organizations by name.

Captain Charles T. Crossman, the present president of the association, who left Attleboro as first lieutenant in Company I of the 101st Infantry, was promoted for meritorious service, and was cited for extraordinary bravery while in action in France. Corporal Joseph Perry, who was with

Company I on the Mexican border, and again when it went to Framingham, was made a corporal overseas, and was killed in action, November 27, 1918. Private Earle I. Brown, of that company, died of wounds in France, September 12, 1918; Private Harry Atterian died October 26, 1918, of wounds received in action in France; Charles O. Fiske died of fever in France, December 17, 1918; Percy E. Cobb died of disease in France, June 14, 1918; Jerome F. Gilbert died of wounds in France, June 15, 1918; Albert Larose was killed in action in France, October 24, 1918; Joseph L. Ritchie was killed in action in France, October 26, 1918; Edward Quintin died in France in October, 1918; Corporal Lester L. Simmons was killed in action in France, October 25, 1918; Sergeant Herbert D. Parmenter died in the service October 24, 1918. Following the battle of Seicheprey, where Company I figured so largely in the casualties, President Wilson, through Secretary Tumulty, forwarded to the editor of the Attleboro Sun a letter of sympathy and appreciation.

The following is the roster of Company I Fifth Massachusetts, as compiled in July, 1917, just before the company left Attleboro:

Captain Thomas F. Williams; First lieutenant Charles T. Crossman; Second lieutenant Henry Neville; First sergeant Frank Mowry; Sergeants Ervin E. M. Gross, Fred E. French, Clifford E. Pierce, Herbert D. Pramentor, George W. Hatch; Corporals Squire Bray, Robert J. Bell, Alex T. Sim, Aime Fredette, Lewin W. Laflamme, George F. Spencer, Robert H. Danis, Raymond H. Pike; Cooks: Arthur W. Pike, Herbert E. Robinson; Mechanic, Howard E. Walker; Buglers, Benjamin F. Morrill, Joseph Perry; Privates: Ernest C. Blakely, William Boutan, Walter L. Bouvé, Harry M. Chase, Norman F. Danis, Manuel Duigmedgian, Clarence F. Garfield, Chester P. Goff, Raymond W. Johnson, Ermond Leroux, Frank Miller, Florian C. Pinault, Dona Roy, Frank J. Tallon, Lawrence D. Williams, Frank W. Alward, Harry Atterian, Lowell Barden, Henry Barlow, Harvey Barton, William E. Bell, William H. Blaney, Ronald Braman, Earle I. Brown, Charles H. Cash, Chester Cheetham, Henry Commettee, Stanley O. Cook, Thomas J. Corrigan, Ovida S. Davignon, Fred B. Dodd, Napoleon Duhamel, F. Daley, Raymond Fisher, Arthur J. Fournier, Walter R. Frazier, Howard R. Gallipeau, Charles A. Gardner, Ernest C. Gardner, David Goodwin, Philip Jacobs, Joseph Jacobs, James W. Johnson, Joseph C. Julius, Michael J. Keeley, Romeo LaFerriere, Leroy Matteson, Arthur Mercier, James J. Morris, William H. Nicholson, Arthur O'Keefe, William E. Packard, Willis Peao, Frank Perry, Leo F. Richardson, Elmer E. Robinson, Eugene Roy, Lester Simmons, Elmer Tingley, Adelbert Treen, Albert J. Trembley, Charles E. Twombly, Theodore Unu, Frank E. White, Alfred D. Willmore, Arthur W. Wilson, Philip Wright, George Champagne, George H. Caswell, Kenneth L. Crook, Henry Dion, Frank Forrester, Jerome F. Gilbert, Joseph Godfrey, John R. Granger, George Keefe, Adelard LePage, Wilfred Roy, William J. Tatro, John E. Wilbur, George Doucette, George F. Bigger, John W. McCue, Ernest F. Childs, Lawrence W. Foster, Joseph L. Pard, Joseph L. Ritchie, Joseph Deland, John Dion, Harry F. Downes, William Gagnon, William McDonald, Leroy F. Webber, Fred J. Sutherland, Charles Bennett, Milton Eddy, William Bears, Amedie F. Marien, Samuel Caron, Walter Darling, Joseph Hall, Thomas F. McDonnell, Bruce H. Miller, Isaac Proulx, James Shaughnessey, William Desonier, Emery Dunton, Arthur Pickup, Eloi F. Arsenault, Frank Guilmann, Elwell S. Jelison, Herbert McDonald, Theodore G. Peterson, Joseph Ringuette, Vaughn S. Silva, Albert Hevey, Eugene Joubert, Ernest Holt.

The State Armory on Pine street was built in 1910.

**Masonic Fraternity.**—Ezekiel Bates Lodge, A. F. and A. M., chartered April 9, 1870, may be called the offspring of Bristol Lodge, A. F. and A. M., which was organized in Norton in 1797, moved to Attleboro East Precinct, in 1812, and in 1830 removed to North Attleboro. About the year 1868,



twenty-four brothers resident in Attleboro, all but one of them members of Bristol Lodge, eager to establish a separate lodge in the east part of the town, became active to that end, and finally, through the influence of Ezekiel Bates, a resident of the town and a member and past master of Saint Andrew's Lodge, A. F. and A. M., secured a dispensation from the M. W. Grand Lodge, and Ezekiel Bates Lodge was formed under dispensation, with Daniel H. Smith as its first master. Arrangements were made with Lyman Dean to add another story to the block he was then building on Park street for a Masonic hall, which was dedicated, and the lodge formally constituted on September 6, 1871. Brother Ezekiel Bates, for whom the lodge was named, and who presented the lodge with the beautiful jewels now in use for the officials, and who was its benefactor in many other ways, died in March, 1871, before the constitution of the lodge. The lodge grew in numbers, and at the expiration of a five years' lease of Dean's Hall, arrangements were made with Brother James H. Sturdy for more pretentious headquarters in the two upper stories of the brick block he was then planning to build; and in 1876 a fifteen years' lease was taken, and the lodge moved to the Sturdy building, where it remained until 1895, when its apartments in the Bronson building were leased. In 1883, the lodge, some \$1,500 in debt, held a three nights' fair in the new watch-case factory of Brother Joseph M. Bates, liquidated all debts, and turned over to the trustees a surplus of \$2,600 as a permanent fund. From that time onwards the lodge has prospered and grown to its present large membership.

Attleboro Council, Royal and Select Masters, at the date of precedence, December 11, 1872, had twenty-one charter members. The membership in 1923 was 288, and the officers for the year ending September, 1923, were: Thrice Illustrious Master Ralph C. Estes; deputy master, Fred H. Richards; principal conductor of the work, Charles D. Blaikie; treasurer, Harlan A. Allen; recorder, Illustrious Winthrop F. Barden.

King Hiram Royal Arch Chapter had sixty-five charter members at the date of precedence, March 7, 1876. The membership in 1923 was 322, and the officers were: High Priest, Charles D. Blaikie; king, Benjamin W. Taylor; scribe, William P. Orr; chaplain, James E. Totten; treasurer, Fred E. Briggs; secretary, William W. Josselyn; captain of host, Charles Thomas.

Bristol Commandery, No. 29, Knights Templar, had seventeen charter members when petition to organize was granted May 26, 1871. The membership in 1923 was 418, and the officers for the year ending September that year were: Commander, Eminent Sir Lewis S. Chilson; generalissimo, Sir Robert L. Cooks; captain general, Sir A. Vernon Wilson; senior warden, Sir George A. Knowles; junior warden, Sir Adelbert M. Barden; prelate, Sir George E. Osgood; treasurer, Sir Fred H. Richards; recorder, Sir Harold W. Mason.

Hope Chapter, Order Eastern Star, at its precedence, October 23, 1893, had forty-one charter members. The membership in 1923 was 449. The officers for the year ending the first Monday in January, 1924: Worthy Matron, Mrs. Alice A. Joselyn; associate matron, Mrs. Margaret T. Gilmore; worthy patron, Robert L. Cooke; secretary, Mrs. Minnie A. Briggs, P. M.; treasurer, Mrs. Caroline T. Sears, P. M.; conductress, Mrs. Mabel B. Dunham; associate conductress, Miss Phyllis W. Sadler; chaplain, Mrs.

Elizabeth B. Stevenson; marshal, Mrs. Ella P. Rogers, P. M.; organist, Mrs. Eva L. Kent, P. M.

**Odd Fellows.**—Orient Lodge, No. 165, I. O. O. F., was at first composed entirely of members of Aurora Lodge, thirty-four in number. Gideon Horton and twenty-nine others petitioned for a charter, and the lodge was instituted October 2, 1873, at Briggs block, in the present G. A. R. Hall. August 10, 1884, Orient Lodge removed to Horton's block; and in May, 1887, to new quarters in the Bates Opera House. The first elective officers were: N. G., Gideon M. Horton; V. G., John Baxter; R. S., Elijah R. Read; treasurer, Stephen T. Smith; P. S., C. H. Pond. The membership in 1923 was about 400. The officers at that time: N. G., John Perry; V. G., John Torrey; secretary, Harold Pierce; financial secretary, Henry Pearce; treasurer, Elmer Potter.

Occident Lodge of Rebekah was at first known as Esther Lodge, and was instituted in 1886.

Canton Attleboro Patriarchs Militant, was instituted in December, 1886. Gideon M. Horton Encampment, No. 80, I. O. O. F., had for officers in 1923: C. P., Adolf Reitzel; S. W., John C. Torrey; H. P., Joseph Kershoff; J. W., Harold B. Pearce; F. S., John W. Perry; R. S., Carlos T. Clark.

The cornerstone of Odd Fellows' building was laid in 1896.

**St. John's Council, K. of C.**—St. John's Council, No. 404, Knights of Columbus, has had a long and pleasing history, and ranks well up in the front with the councils in this part of New England. It was instituted by James Gorman, district deputy of Fall River, February 13, 1899, with Thomas E. McCaffrey as the first grand knight, and with fifty-five charter members. The following-named have been grand knights of the council since the start: Thomas Nolan, Thomas Bradley, W. J. Kenney, James Currie, M. A. Galligan, Hugh Gaffney, John Foley, W. J. Corcoran, Charles Crehan, Dr. J. L. McCarthy, Hugh E. Butler, Henry V. Kelly, George J. Leach, H. Earle Brown, W. E. Coffey, W. J. Duffy, John H. Lahey, Joseph A. Smith, Edward F. Colvin, James J. Murphy. Few councils can show so fine a record for World War service as this one, as fifty-five out of a total membership of one hundred and sixty-five entered the military and naval service of the United States during that war. The sum of \$3600 was raised in the Attleboro Knights of Columbus drive in the year 1917, this being apart from their contribution to the general drive of 1918. The membership in 1923 was 265. The officers in 1923: Grand Knight, James F. Murphy; deputy grand knight, Richard A. Cleary; recorder, John Lyons; chancellor, Fred J. Franz; financial secretary, T. E. Colman; treasurer, W. J. Duffy; warden, John Gaboury; inside guard, Louis Clarkin; outside guards, Frank Brady and Louis Mulligan; advocate, Russell Blaine; board of trustees: Joseph A. Smith, Edward F. Colvin, Louis J. Blaine; chaplain, Rev. Father D. F. Sheedy.

Alcazaba Council, No. 65, Daughters of Isabella, meets the second and fourth Wednesdays in Manchester Unity Hall. The officers in 1923: Regent, Eleanor Robinson; vice-regent, Agnes Garrick; secretary, Katherine Foley; treasurer, Monica Bowen.

**Other Fraternal Organizations.**—Attleboro Lodge, No. 463, Loyal Order of Moose, was instituted January 30, 1911, by Arthur W. Hayden,



of Boston Lodge, No. 34, New England supervisor. The first dictator was Louis E. Porter, the secretary Ernest M. Fuller. There was a charter membership of 661. The membership in 1923 was 648. The dictator was William H. Oldenberg; the secretary, George E. Keagan.

Mary A. Fallon Court, No. 178, M. C. O. F., was instituted June 8, 1900, with eighteen charter members. The membership for the year ending 1922 was 160. The court is located in Emmett Hall, 45 Park street.

Pythagoras Lodge, No. 70, Knights of Pythias, of Attleboro, was instituted May 26, 1885, with forty charter members. The membership December 31, 1922, was 189. The officers for the year were: Edward Sanford, Jr., chancellor commander; Walter Peckham, vice-chancellor; Edward Lane, prelate; Ellsworth Fields, master of work; G. G. Bullock, keeper of records and seal; W. P. Waugh, master of finance; John F. Hempel, master of exchequer; Theo. Wrightington, master-at-arms; Robert Crook, inner guard; Leon Walker, outer guard; William Hochberg and Charles H. Bliss, representatives to Grand Lodge.

Attleboro Lodge, No. 1014, B. P. O. Elks, with meeting place at Odd Fellows' Hall, the officers for 1922: Exalted Ruler, George A. Sweeney; esteemed loyal knight, George E. Macdonald; esteemed lecturing knight, John P. Eagan; secretary, Virgil Blackinton; treasurer, Ernest M. Fuller.

Pennington Lodge, No. 44, A. O. U. W., was organized in June, 1882. The officers in 1922: Master Workman, August B. Gurn; recorder, Willard I. Alger; treasurer, George A. Sweeney.

Hospitaller Commandery, No. 279, Knights of Malta, organized March 6, 1900, meets the first and third Tuesdays at Odd Fellows' Hall. S. Wesley Hollis was recorder in 1922.

Bernice Sisterhood, No. 19, Dames of Malta, meets at Odd Fellows' Hall, first and third Mondays. The officers in 1922: Queen Esther, Mrs. Sarah Peck; Ruth, Mrs. Ella Fletcher; Naomi, Miss Marion Fountain; keeper of archives, Miss Oliva Ricketts.

Royal Arcanum, Attleboro Council No. 366, meets at Arcanum Hall first and third Monday evenings each month.

New England Order of Protection meets at G. A. R. Hall the second and fourth Tuesdays. The officers in 1922: Warden, Harry Fisher; vice-warden, Ralph Gunner; secretary, Ernest M. Fuller; treasurer, James H. Rogers.

**Miscellaneous.**—The French people, skilled in jewelry-working, as well as in cotton-manufacturing, have become represented here in numbers by their families during the past twenty years. As almost everywhere else in this country, at least, L'Union St. Jean Baptiste was the first fraternal organization, it having been established about the year 1893. It was this first nucleus of the French inhabitants here who secured the foundation of St. Joseph parish. Soon afterwards, the Laurier Club was formed, that later became merged with the present Civics Club. Then in turn came the fraternal societies such as Les Artisans, and the Forestiers-Franco-Americain, organized in 1908; its president in 1923 was Omer Dupuis. There is a Court of Women Foresters that has been in existence since 1915; Mrs. Omer Laponte is the president. The Ladies' Catholic Benevolent Association, also a French society, was organized with Miss Eunice Danis as the

president. Club Nationale, formerly the French Tireurs, was organized in 1921, when Joseph Tharl was the president. The president in 1923 was William Audette.

For twelve years at least the Jewish people have been active in Attleboro in the business, social and patriotic lines, and in their own religious and fraternal interests. The synagogue, Agudath Achim, on Pearl street, a building purchased of the society of the Swedish church, was first occupied by the Jewish people in 1911. With Louis Rotenberg as chairman, a committee composed of the following-named, brought about the purchase of the building and the settlement of a regular rabbi for the congregation: M. B. Sholevitz, Charles Fine, Samuel Friedman, Max London. The first president of the society was J. Rotenberg. Joseph Finberg, prominent in the affairs of the city, is an honorary member of the congregation. Rabbi Zitomersky is the rabbi in charge.

Attleboro Lodge of the Independent Order Brith Abraham, was instituted in 1907, with thirty-four charter members. Maurice Spector was the first president; Joseph Rotenberg was secretary. There are sixty-four members at the present time (1923), both men and women. Oscar Moshkowitz is the president, Joseph Rotenberg is the secretary. Louis Rotenberg is the district deputy. The Jewish people have built forty-nine tenement houses here within the past twelve years.

Historian Daggett declares that it was his belief that the town had four organized companies of militia during the Revolutionary period, namely, the North, South, East and West companies; and that one company was organized during the War of 1812 for special service. In 1832, he states at a muster of brigade in Berkley the Washington Rifle Corps of Attleboro was among the organizations present.

---

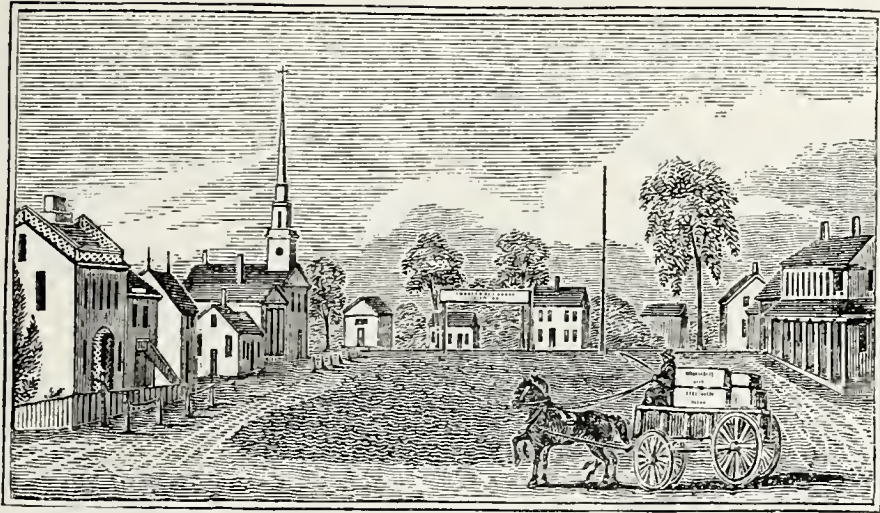
## CHAPTER XIV.

### ATTLEBORO INDUSTRIES

Industry denotes the beginning and the crescendo continuation of Attleboro's story of action, that being so of all these Bristol county townships, although for the sake of uniformity in the system of this work its elaboration is designated for a final chapter. In industry the town was founded; industrially, the city is known throughout the world for its leading product, jewelry-making. Farmers, builders, mechanics, millers, foundrymen—such industrious yoke-fellows firmly established the settlement; and in later years there succeeded the even more ingenious manufacturers, and then the jewelers and their remarkable occupancy and persistent possession and growth. We have the Attleboro historian, the late Hon. John Daggett, to thank for making the way clear as to the beginnings of industry here, for this work; and the present-day Chamber of Commerce comes to our aid with its questionnaire to Attleboro industry in general for our review of the present-day activities.

Careful research has failed to disclose the identity of the Frenchman who, at his small forge in North Attleboro in 1780, began to make brass.





OLD WEST VIEW OF ATTLEBOROUGH



WESTERN VIEW OF FAIRHAVEN IN 1850





butts—the inception of all jewelry-making and its allied production in the Attleboros. His monument is a business that employs a city full of people today; and the memory of him survives in the spirit of a very successful specialty in industry.

The first French jeweler here is simply set down in the records as “the foreigner”; and with one other exception in South Attleboro, he was the only French-speaking townsman at the time. We are sure of his having been a jewelry artisan, and that his forge stood on the premises of Jesse F. Richards, the factory having been demolished in 1810—this much, only, of the skilled Frenchman. But it was he who opened the door of great opportunity to Attleboro. Thereupon, Colonel Obed Robinson started jewelry-making in earnest at his manufactory at Robinsonville. Then, in succession appeared the shops that have made history for town and city, and whose ownership and the dates thereof have been recorded in Mr. Daggett’s volume, where the story has been so thoroughly detailed that it is unnecessary again to repeat. In their sequence, then, those first factories were as follows: Manning Richards, at the head of Cumberland Road in 1810; Draper, Tift and Company in 1821, the firm name being changed in 1850 to Draper, Tift & Bacon, in 1851 again to Draper, Tift & Company, again in 1859 to Lincoln, Tift & Bacon, in 1862, to J. F. Bacon & Company at Plainville, and to Lincoln, Tift & Company in New York, in 1880 to Lincoln, Bacon & Company. This firm became one of the largest of its day in the country. Richards & Price started in 1830; Dennis Everett and Otis Stanley in 1831. E. Ira Richards & Company began business in 1833, the firm name being H. M. & E. I. Richards; the name was changed in 1834 to Ira Richards & Company, and again, in 1875 to E. Ira Richards & Company. The firm of Stephen Richardson & Company was organized in 1836 or 1837; in 1843 the name was changed to Richardson & Miller, and in 1859 to Stephen Richardson & Son. The plant was twice burned, in 1870 and 1882; it was the first Attleboro jewelry firm to ship goods to Europe. The firm of Daggett & Robinson was begun in 1837, the name being changed in 1850 to Robinson & Company. Thompson, Hayward & Company began to manufacture jewelry in 1851; the first change in the name of the firm was to Hayward & Briggs in 1855, so continuing for thirty years. The plant was burned in 1859; in 1885 the old firm was dissolved and the new association was known as C. E. Hayward & Company. In 1886, the name Hayward & Sweet was assumed.

The firm of B. S. Freeman & Company was established in 1847, under the name Freeman & Brother, and was among the first in town to make rolled plated goods. The name was changed in 1860 to Freeman & Company, and in 1879 to B. S. Freeman & Company. J. F. Sturdy & Company began business in 1849, at first organized as Draper, Sturdy & Company. This firm introduced the manufacture of rolled gold plated stock and jewelry in Attleboro. F. G. Whitney & Company began operations in 1849, and was among the earliest firms to manufacture inexpensive jewelry. White & Shaw, oldest of the jewelry concerns in South Attleboro, was organized in 1852. H. F. Barrows & Company started in 1854, and was first known as Barrows & Sturdy. H. D. Merritt & Company was begun in 1855 as Merritt & Draper. C. E. W. Sherman & Son was first organized in 1854 as George K. Davis & Company. Bates & Bacon had its first

beginnings with the firm of Skinner, Viall & Company in 1857; in 1858 the name was changed to Bates, Capron & Williams; and in 1867 to Bates and Bacon. This firm introduced the manufacture of watch-cases here.

G. A. Dean & Company began business in 1857 as Everett, Dean & Company; the name was changed in 1860 to Everett, Day & Company, in 1867 to Day, Bliss & Dean, in 1871 to Bliss & Dean. Blake & Claflin, successors to Sturdy Brothers & Company, was organized in 1859 as Sturdy Brothers. The firm of V. H. Blackinton was launched in 1857. Short, Nerney & Company was organized in 1862 as Nerney & Company. T. I. Smith & Company began business previous to 1860 as Coddington & Smith, and in 1865 the style was changed to Coddington, Smith & Company. J. J. and J. M. Richards started in 1864 as the firm of E. S. Richards & Company. J. W. Luther & Company started in January, 1865. The firm of F. S. Draper & Company was formed in 1865 as Draper, Pate and Bailey. A. Bushee & Company commenced operations in 1868. W. S. Blackinton began business in 1869. The firm of Horton, Angell & Company was formed in 1870. The organization of the firm of Young & Bennett took place in 1870. Stanley Brothers began business in 1871; Cummings and Wexel, as E. N. Cummings & Company in 1871. P. E. Witherell as Hayward & Carpenter in 1873, changed to Hayward & Witherell in 1879. R. F. Simmons & Company in 1874; Bliss Brothers & Everett in 1873; Watson, Newell & Company in 1874 as Cobb, Gould & Company, changed in 1880 to Watson & Newell, and in 1887 to Watson, Newell & Company. R. B. MacDonald in 1874; Joseph J. Doyle in 1875; John Etzensperger in 1876; Nerney & Lincoln as Short & Nerney in 1876; S. E. Fisher & Company succeeding Demarest, Fisher & Company in 1887; G. K. Webster as G. K. Webster & Company in 1883; Marsh & Bigney in 1879; S. W. Gould & Company in 1880; J. M. Fisher & Company as Harris & Fisher in 1880; John P. Bonnett as Cheever & Bonnett, the firm dissolving as such in 1880; L. E. Sadler in 1880; W. G. Clark & Company in 1881; D. F. Briggs in 1882; Daggett & Clap in 1882; H. H. Curtis & Company in 1883; Riley & French in 1883; F. S. Gilbert in 1884; C. R. Harris in 1885; J. N. Hugo & Company as Knight & Berry in 1885; T. J. Halliday & Company as Bennett & Halliday in 1885; Wheaton, Richards & Company, as Wheaton & Richards in 1886; O. M. Draper in 1862 as O. M. Draper & Company; R. Blackinton & Company in 1863; E. I. Franklin & Company in 1874; Sandland, Capron & Company in 1876; Demarest & Bradley in 1874 as Demarest & Fisher; Mason, Draper & Company in 1870; Smith & Crosby in 1872; W. H. Wilmarth in 1872; Streeter Brothers in 1867.

The following is the present-day group of Attleboro concerns, information concerning which has been obtained for this publication by the Attleboro Chamber of Commerce. Figures from the director of statistics in the State department of labor and industries, show that in Attleboro nearly \$40,000,000 in manufactured product is turned out annually, and wages paid exceed \$10,134,000. Figures for Attleboro show that the total in 1912 leaped in ten years to the mark of \$24,064,331, for 1922. The jewelry total of \$9,309,825 in 1912 became \$14,278,022 in 1922. All told, over \$18,450,000 worth of jewelry was made in the Attleboros during 1924, and over 4,000 people were employed.

The Elliot & Douglass Manufacturing Company was started in 1908



and incorporated in 1912. The officers and directors at present are W. M. Bowman, president; S. E. Knight, vice-president and clerk; John A. Thayer, treasurer; W. M. Bowman, S. E. Knight, John A. Thayer, John W. Perry, directors. They employ nine male workers. They manufacture links, pocket knives, bracelets, bar pins, tie clasps, waldemars, etc.

The S. Dosick & Company was started in February, 1920, and has not been incorporated yet. S. Dosick is president and O. Dosick is treasurer. They have five male employees and three female employees. They manufacture a general line of jewelry and novelties.

The American Metalcrafts Company, Incorporated, was formerly The American Emblem and Badge Company, started in 1918 and incorporated in 1923. Thomas Kelliher is president; John Maguire, treasurer; and R. J. Brown, secretary and general manager. They have twelve male employees and two female employees. They manufacture emblems, badges, trophy medals, class pins and rings, automobile name plates and advertising novelties.

Carter, Qvarnstrom & Remington was started March 1, 1899, and is not a corporation. E. J. Qvarnstrom is the chief executive. They manufacture a general line of plated jewelry.

The Bay State Optical Company was started in 1894. In 1862 Peter Nerney and Mace Short started to make gold-filled chains. Their reputation led to the establishment of the Bay State Optical Company in 1894. The officers are Frank J. Nerney, Edwin D. Nerney, and Stephen J. Clulee. They employ about 125 male workers and about the same number of female workers. Optical frames of pyroxyle and zylonite, gold, etc., are manufactured there.

S. O. Bigney Company started in 1894 and in 1920 became a corporation. S. O. Bigney is president and treasurer, J. Arthur Payette is secretary, and Harold Treen is foreman. They employ seventy men and thirty women. They manufacture chains for men and women, bracelets, locket, combs, cigarette cases, knives, etc.

Crown Manufacturing Company was started in 1910 and in 1911 it was incorporated. Lyman B. Goff, president; Kenneth F. Stood, vice-president; E. D. Leonard, treasurer; B. C. Chase, general manager; the officers and E. Kent Swift and Darius Goff are directors. The Crown Manufacturing Company manufactures cotton yarns, Peeler and Egyptian.

John A. Cunningham & Company was started in 1906. They employ seven men and three women. They manufacture "Snappy Links".

Morse Andrews Company was started in July, 1913, and was incorporated March 16, 1916. William J. Morse is president and treasurer, and Walter A. Briggs is clerk. They employ about 27 men and 14 women. They manufacture gents' belt buckles.

Santos Company was started in 1917 and incorporated in the same year. William R. Piepenstock and Frederick Schwinn are the officers. They employ about seven men and ten women. They manufacture chains and a general line of jewelry.

H. A. Allen Company was started December 1, 1908. Harlan A. Allen is the owner and he manufactures link buttons, bracelets, knives, combs, etc.

American Carrier Company was started in 1911. J. E. Chase is the

owner. From four to seven male employees. They manufacture carriers for manufacture of insulated wire, laces, tread wire, etc.

American Reenforced Paper Company was started and incorporated January 9, 1921. P. T. Jackson is president; John Noble, secretary; and C. H. Howard, treasurer. About fourteen men are employed. They manufacture reenforced and plain waterproof paper.

The Appleton Studios were started July 1, 1921, with J. H. Appleton and F. G. Simmonds as officers. They employ about six men and four women. They are manufacturers and distributors of boxed art novelties.

Attleboro Braiding Company was started in October, 1915, and was incorporated in the same year. Sanford H. Cohen and Bernard Boas are the officers. They employ about 59 men and 66 women. They manufacture shoe laces and braids of all descriptions.

The Attleboro Press Company was established as a partnership in 1892, and it has never been incorporated. The officers are Howard E. Patt, Charles H. Stearns and Francis Bottomley. They do printing of all kinds, and they manufacture jewelers' cards and tissues.

Attleboro Refining Company was started in 1899. Harold D. Baker is the owner and manager. There are about seven men and two women employed. They refine gold and silver and copper.

Automatic Machine Products Company was started April 2, 1922. They employ four men and three women. They manufacture screw machine products.

The A. H. Babcock Company was started in 1851 with A. H. Babcock and Henry McGill as officers. They employ two men and ten women. They manufacture paper boxes of all kinds and also display pads. The owners believe this to be the first concern to manufacture paper boxes in Massachusetts; the business having been started by H. S. Babcock, father of A. H. Babcock, when boxes were cut with jack knives and rulers.

Baker & Potter Refining Company was started as a partnership in 1918 and has never been incorporated. George M. Baker, and Elwin A. Potter are the owners. They employ six men and one woman. They refine gold, silver, platinum and copper.

L. G. Balfour Company was started in 1913 and incorporated in 1914. L. G. Balfour is president, secretary and treasurer; J. R. Brooks, vice-president; and William P. Yates is a director. They employ about 200 men and 100 women. They manufacture a full line of college fraternity badges and jewelry, class pins and rings.

The Ballou Manufacturing Company was started in 1910 and incorporated in 1910. T. W. Cash is the president; C. A. Murphy, vice-president; and Lester J. Murphy, secretary and treasurer. They have twenty male employees and fifteen female employees. They manufacture lockets, rosaries, buckles, card cases, combs, perfume holders and powder boxes.

Bates & Klinker was started November 18, 1919. They have not been incorporated. The partners are Harold Bates and Oscar F. Klinker. They have four male employees. They manufacture hubs, dies and tools.

James E. Blake Company was started in 1859 and incorporated in 1922. William H. Blake is president and treasurer. They have sixty-five male employees and ten female employees. They manufacture sterling silver and gold inlaid cigarette and vanity cases, dorines, belt buckles, etc.



Bliss Brothers Company was started in 1873 and has not been incorporated. Joseph F. Rioux is the owner. They have thirty male employees and ten female employees. They manufacture rosaries and rosary cases, knives, lockets, watch straps, cigarette holders, bracelets and waldemar chains.

Bliss, Holbrook Company was started in 1916 and incorporated January 2, 1917. Clarence A. Holbrook is president; Edward N. Bliss, treasurer; and Everett Palmer, secretary. They have five male employees and four female employees. They manufacture coffin trimmings.

The D. F. Briggs Company was started about 1885 and incorporated in 1910. Frank E. Tappan, president; F. C. Wilmarth, vice-president; H. R. Gardner, S. N. Sandfelder, M. L. Sandfelder, F. C. Wilmarth and F. E. Tappan, directors. They have fifty male employees and fifty female employees. They manufacture chains and bracelets.

Clegg Manufacturing & Tool Company was started November 2, 1909. Joseph Clegg is the owner. Five males are employed and four females. They manufacture patented articles in sheet metal. They do toolmaking, blanking, piercing and forming, dies.

Mr. W. E. Coles started a concern in 1893. He is the owner and employs three male workers. They manufacture dies and tools.

Collingwood Brothers was started in 1911. They are not incorporated. They employ eleven males and one female. They manufacture woven wire, soft collar pins, lingerie pins, belt clips and findings.

F. J. Cooper is an enameler and started his business in November, 1917. He is the owner and employs three males and seven females.

A. B. Cummings was started in 1912, and Mr. Cummings is the individual owner. He employs thirty males and twenty-one females. They manufacture toy movie machines and phonographs.

Dominick & Haff was started in 1821 and incorporated on March 1, 1889. H. B. Dominick is the president; G. L. Crowell, Jr., vice-president; Wm. F. McChesney, treasurer; and Harrison Hebbard, secretary. They employ forty males. They manufacture sterling silver holloware and cutlery. The office at Attleboro is only a branch of the main office of Dominick & Haff, 144 Orange street, Newark, N. J.

C. H. Eden Company was started in 1901 and incorporated in 1901. S. M. Einstein is the president; F. L. Pond, vice-president; E. H. Brown, treasurer; C. O. Mathewson, secretary. The directors are P. O. Wilmarth, Eugene Mason and above officers. They employ twenty-five males and one hundred females. They manufacture popular-priced jewelry.

Electric Chain Company was started in 1900 and incorporated in 1904. George F. Sawyer is president and treasurer, Alfred S. Rees is vice-president, Gilbert C. Hall is secretary. They employ thirty-five males and thirty-five females. They manufacture chain and findings for manufacturers.

J. B. Ellis started a business in 1890 and is the owner. He employs three males, and does engraving and chasing.

L. M. Flanders Company was started August 1, 1920, and incorporated July 5, 1922. L. M. Flanders is the president and treasurer and Frederick S. Sibley is vice-president. They have ten male employees and fifteen female employees. They manufacture beauty pins, lingerie clasps, knives, earrings, bracelets, etc.

Fuller-MacFarlane was started January, 1913. The partners are Gordon E. Fuller and H. H. MacFarlane. They have from two to ten male employees. They are chasers and designers of steel jewelry, bronze and silverware.

General Findings & Supply Company was started in 1912 and has not been incorporated. Edwin F. Leach is the president and Stephen H. Garner is the treasurer. They have fifty male employees and fifty female employees. They manufacture swivels and spring rings and bars for chains.

E. D. Gilmore & Company was started in 1891 and has not been incorporated. The partners are E. D. Gilmore, Wm. L. King and E. L. Gilmore. They have thirty-six male employees and four females. They manufacture 10K and 14K jewelry for men and women.

The Gunner Manufacturing Company was started January, 1920. Ralph R. Gunner is president and Albert T. Gunner is treasurer. They employ five males. They manufacture jewelry findings, belt clips, bracelet buckles and hooks, novelties, rosary cases, sautoir cups and tassels. They also do spinning in gold, silver and platinum, and they do toolmaking, soldering, stamping, etc.

Guyot Brothers was started in 1904. Arthur F. Guyot is president and Gaston A. Guyot is secretary and treasurer. They employ eighteen males and two females. They manufacture jewelry findings, and are tool makers, hub and die cutters.

H. & B. American Machine Company was started in 1894. C. E. Riley is president; E. R. Richardson, treasurer; E. L. Martin, secretary; and J. W. Richardson, P. A. They have 1,000 male employees. Cotton mill machinery.

The present firm of Walter E. Hayward Company was started in 1831 and incorporated January 1, 1921. Charles C. Wilmarth is president; Frank E. Smith, vice-president; Frank J. Ryder, treasurer; Walter G. Moon, secretary. Directors: Frank J. Ryder, Charles C. Wilmarth, Frank E. Smith, John A. Malcolm and Elmer S. Smith. They employ eighty males and seventeen females. They manufacture solid gold front and gold plated jewelry, such as knives, cuff links, belt buckles, fobs, cuff pins, bar pins, tie clasps, ribbon waldemars, sautoirs, etc. Firm name has changed a number of times since first starting in business.

Thomas Heath started a business in 1906. They have from nine to eleven male employees and one female employee. They manufacture dies and tools.

Home Bleach & Dye Works was started in 1880 and incorporated 1902 in Rhode Island and in Maine in 1919. E. Kent Swift is president; Arthur R. Sharp, vice-president; T. E. Hatch, treasurer and clerk; directors: above officers and A. D. Milliken. They employ 250 males and 70 females. They do mercerizing, bleaching, dyeing, winding of cotton yarn and tape.

J. T. Inman & Company was started in 1882. They employ ten males and two females. They manufacture cigarette cases, vanity cases, souvenir novelties, bracelets, lockets, etc.

The J. & L. Tool Company was started January 1, 1912, and has not been incorporated. Emil L. Johnson and Olof Lundsten are the partners.



They employ thirty-five males and no females. They manufacture jewelers' tools and findings, sold to manufacturers only.

W. D. Jordan Company was started in August, 1920. W. D. Jordan is the sole owner. He employs one male and two females. Manufacture sterling silver rosaries, rosary cases, locket, links, chains. A great deal of this work is done in job shops.

Keller Manufacturing Company, formerly Morse Pencil Company, was started in October, 1920, and incorporated on October 4, 1920. William J. Morse, E. I. Perry, Geo. W. Cook, and E. C. Keller are the officers. They employ five males and one female. They manufacture sterling holloware, pencils and novelties.

B. B. & R. Knight, Incorporated, Dodgeville Mill, employs 125 males and 80 females. They make sheetings.

B. B. & R. Knight, Incorporated, Hebron Mill, was started in 1865 and incorporated in 1919. Andrew G. Pierce is the president; F. L. Branson, general manager; and A. B. Benson, superintendent. They employ sixty-five males and sixty females. They manufacture cotton yarns.

Larson Tool & Stamping Company was started March 15, 1920, and incorporated at the same time. Mr. N. G. Larson is the president; C. G. Larson, vice-president; C. W. Cederberg, treasurer; and J. E. Straker and C. L. Watson, directors. They employ thirty males and no females. They manufacture metal stampings, wrenches, and metal signs, and tools of all descriptions.

Leach & Garner Company was started December, 1899, and incorporated at the same time. Edwin F. Leach is the president; Stephen H. Garner is the treasurer; they are also the directors. They employ eighty males and three females. They manufacture rolled gold plate in sheet, wire and seamless tubing (for the manufacturing trade).

Leach & Miller Company was started in 1900 and is not incorporated. The partners are L. A. Leach and Letty Leach. They employ twenty males and five females. They manufacture bracelets and locket, scarf pins, ear drops and novelties.

McRae & Keeler, Incorporated, was started July, 1893, and incorporated December 31, 1921. L. P. Keeler, president; A. A. McRae, treasurer; Ada G. Keeler, clerk; and all are directors. They employ seventy-one males and seventy-nine females. They manufacture chains of all kinds, cigarette cases, knives, belt buckles, fobs, cuff links, jewelry and novelties.

M. S. Company was started December, 1913, and incorporated in 1923. S. M. Einstein is president; Max Schweinshaut, treasurer; and Eugene Claupin, clerk. They employ fifty males and seventy females. They manufacture chains and chain findings in gold, silver, plate and brass for the manufacturing jewelers and kindred trades.

R. B. MacDonald & Company, incorporated, was started in 1874 and incorporated in 1913. Robert B. MacDonald is the president and treasurer; Walter M. Thayer, vice-president and general manager. The above and H. M. Thayer are directors. They employ forty-five men and twenty-three women. They manufacture emblem goods, locket, crosses, bracelets, knives, neckchain photo cases, saints medallions for export. Mr. MacDonald is the dean of manufacturing jewelers in this vicinity, having been the original owner, and is still active in its management. Mr. Thayer

became identified with the firm when it was incorporated in 1913. In 1923, Irving L. Hodges and Percy G. Marshall, factory superintendent and salesman, respectively, for several years, became stockholders.

D. E. Makepeace Company was started in 1888 and incorporated on July 30, 1902, Rhode Island. David E. Makepeace, president; Aldro A. French, vice-president and treasurer; William E. Sweeney, secretary; and the above with Lawrence C. Miller, directors. They employ 100 men and 18 women. They manufacture flat stock, wire and tubing in platinum, gold and silver; rolled gold and silver plate, inlaid gold on gold and sterling silver.

C. A. Marsh & Company was started in 1892. The partners are William E. Rounseville and George L. Shepardson. They employ eighteen men and nine women. They manufacture men's belt buckles in sterling, plate, gold inlaid and solid gold. Men's chains and knives.

Metal Specialties Company was started in January, 1916 and incorporated in 1918. H. R. Holbrook is president and treasurer and L. M. Holbrook is clerk. They employ ten men and six women. They make drafting instruments, stampings, mailing box fasteners, and automatic machinery.

Millard Leather Company was started in January, 1916, and incorporated in July, 1922. Harry S. Millard is president; Karl B. Brooks, treasurer; William F. Harty, secretary; Paul J. Brooks, George H. Armstrong, directors. They employ twenty-five men and one woman. They are tanners and finishers of calfskins for fancy leather goods and shoes.

Mossberg Pressed Steel Corporation was started in 1919 and incorporated at the same time. Frank Mossberg is president; D. E. Makepeace, vice-president; A. A. Underwood, secretary; C. A. VanderPyl, treasurer. Directors: Frank Mossberg, C. A. VanderPyl, D. E. Makepeace, Rev. J. Lee Mitchell, S. O. Bigney, W. H. Lamb, S. J. Clulee, E. A. Eddy. They employ 100 men and 8 women. They manufacture steel spools, reels and braider carriers for wire trade, steel beams, beam heads, loom beam heads, section beam heads, adjustable beam heads, braider carriers, drop wires, jack spools for textile mills. "To the best of our knowledge we are the first company in this country formed to specialize in the making of steel spools and reels for the wire mills and all steel loom, section beam heads, adjustable beam heads, etc., for the textile mills. Our textile line is particularly a new development and is designed and constructed to replace cast-iron heads which are used in the mills."

Pitman & Durell was started March 1, 1919, and they have four male employees. They make tools and dies.

The Qroil Company was started June, 1923, and is not incorporated. W. H. Saart is president and treasurer, and Ormond Saart is manager. They have one employee. They manufacture Schneider's Qroil.

The R. & G. Company would like to have their name included in the list but do not care to give the other information.

W. E. Richards Company was started in 1904 and incorporated in 1907. Raymond M. Horton is president and treasurer and C. A. Howard is secretary. They employ forty men and ten women. They make ten and fourteen-karat gold rings, bar pins and scarf pins.

Saart Brothers Company was started in 1905 and incorporated in 1916. W. H. Saart is president and treasurer; A. G. Saart, secretary; Herman



Saart, vice-president. Same are directors. They employ seventy-one men and twenty-seven women. They make sterling silver and silver-plated novelties.

Sadler Brothers, South Attleboro, started in 1863 and were reorganized in 1884. The partners are Herbert A. Sadler and Thomas G. Sadler. They employ thirty men and thirty-six women. They make celluloid jewelry and novelties.

F. H. Sadler Company was started in 1881 and incorporated in 1904 in Rhode Island and in 1917 in Massachusetts. L. E. Sadler is president; F. H. Sadler, treasurer; directors, Nettie D. Sadler, Mrs. Irma S. Webb, with the officers. They employ eighteen men and twenty-two women. They make bar pins, cuff pins, bracelets, tie clasps, buckles, belt chains, 10K gold top scarf pins, 10K pendants, gold plated bar pins, scarf pins, tie clasps, cuff pins, belt chains, soft collar holders, fancy line of ear drops and tasseltes. Sadler gold-filled solderless lockets. "Sadler's Gold-Filled Solderless Patent (S) Ring."

R. F. Simmons Company was started in 1873. Joseph L. Sweet and Harold E. Sweet are co-partners. They employ 160 men and 60 women. They make gold-filled watch chains and kindred articles.

Smith & Crosby was started in 1874. Alfred D. Crosby and George H. Crosby are partners. They employ thirty-five men and fifteen women. They make cuff buttons, fobs, knives, chains, full-dress sets, bracelets, ear drops, brooches, crosses, etc.

Spellmeyer & Carey was started in 1913. The partners are George A. Spellmeyer and George A. Carey. They employ ten men and one woman. They do engraving.

W. A. Spier was started in 1891 and employs four men. They make hubs, dies, and jewelers' tools.

Sweet Manufacturing Company was started in 1904. Frank R. Sweet is the owner. They make machine chain.

Sykes & Strandberg was started in 1899 and is a co-partnership. The partners are George H. Sykes and G. W. Strandberg. They employ sixty men and twenty-five women. They make a general line of gold front engraved jewelry for men and women.

H. E. S. Thompson Company was started in November, 1909. They employ five men and three women. They do electro-plating on all kinds of metal goods. Deposits of gold, silver, copper, nickel, brass.

F. L. Torrey & Company was started in 1906. The partners are Fred L. Torrey and Joseph Kerkhoff. They employ thirty men and eight women. They make men's belt buckles and belt chain, and novelties.

Union Plate & Wire Company was started in 1911 and incorporated April 1, 1913. Amos S. Blackinton is president; George Fife, vice-president; F. C. Wilmarth, treasurer. They employ ninety men and three women. They make gold and silver flat stock, wire and tubing.

J. A. Varieur started a business March 1, 1921, and employs four men. They make jewelers' supplies.

Watson Company was started in 1874 and incorporated May 1, 1920. Clarence L. Watson is president and treasurer. They make sterling silver holloware and flatware. They employ 250 men and 25 women.

W. D. Wilmarth & Company was started in 1864 and incorporated in

1894. W. H. Wilmarth is president; H. P. Wilmarth, treasurer; and E. J. Wilmarth is clerk. They employ twelve men and ten women. They make coffin and casket hardware.

Barden & Hull, manufacturers of solid gold jewelry, 1906, succeeding Chapman & Bardin, who succeeded Barden, Blake & Company, Plainville, 1897, sold plant to Le Stage Manufacturing Company in 1916. Standard Jewelry Company organized in 1893 at Plainville, moved to Attleboro in 1900. W. F. Barden, treasurer and manager.

The Bay State Optical Company is the outgrowth of a lifelong business partnership formed in 1862 between Peter Nerney and Mace Short, who for years manufactured jewelry, and won an exceptional reputation for the manufacture of the gold-filled chains. The Bay State Optical Company was founded in 1894, for the manufacture of spectacles and eye-glasses from rolled gold stock. The company is owned by two sons of Peter Nerney, the founder, namely, Frank J. and Edwin D. Nerney, who with Stephen J. Clulee, make up the officers and sole ownership.

Among the earlier industries of the Attleboros, there is the pre-Revolutionary record of Forgemaster Robert Saunderson's ironworks at East Attleboro, and of the successive superintendencies there of Robert Lightfoot, Thomas Baylies, Thomas Cobb, Jonathan Cobb, Nathaniel Robinson, Elijah Ingraham, Ezra and Jabel Ingraham, and Henry Smith, its history inclusive of the dates 1742 and 1809. In their turn, too, came the cotton manufacturers, the first to erect a cotton mill here being Ingraham Richardson & Company, in 1811—Whittaker, Richardson & Company being the succeeding style of the firm, in 1821. The Farmers' Factory, maintained by neighboring farmers, was soon followed, nearby, by the Mechanics' Manufacturing Company, Samuel and Jesse Carpenter, proprietors, and within a very few years there were many changes in the proprietorship. There, a stock company was formed in 1871, and about 2,000,000 yards of cloth were woven annually. The Beaver Dam factory, formerly a nail-making establishment, became a cotton mill in 1809, and after a succession of ownerships the mill was burned in 1832. The Falls Manufacturing Company, incorporated in 1813, built the Falls factory. Jonathan and George Bliss were proprietors up to 1849, when H. N. and H. M. Daggett were owners, to 1856. H. M. Richards then purchased the plant. Not long afterwards, H. N. Daggett repurchased and converted the plant into a braid factory. The City Factory, on Seven Mile River, was built in 1813, and the Attleboro City Manufacturing Company was incorporated in 1818. The building was burned in 1826, and was rebuilt. In the eighties, it was occupied by the Nottingham Knitting Company. The Lanesville factory, in Adamsdale, was built in 1826, and ran two thousand spindles and fifty looms. It had many owners, and was destroyed by fire in 1881. John F. Adams rebuilt the mill in 1882.

Under the firm name of the Attleboro Manufacturing Company, Dodge's factory was established in 1809. In 1812, the name was changed to the Tyler Manufacturing Company. The property was sold at auction in 1854. In 1870, the new owners incorporated as Hebron Manufacturing Company. The Atherton factory was established in 1812 at Hebronville as Atherton Manufacturing Company, and was owned and improved by several different companies, coming under the Knight ownership in 1848.



Button manufacturing had its beginning here in 1793 by Edward Price. He was succeeded in 1812 by Obed and Otis Robinson—this being the first company formed for this business in the United States. Richard Robinson & Company began the manufacture of glass buttons in 1823; they formed a new firm in 1826 under the same style. Robinson, Jones & Company began making buttons in 1826, and the button-making machine was invented by John Hatch, in their employ, in 1845. D. Evans & Company succeeded the Robinsons in 1848. Robinson, Hall & Company established their factory in 1832. Coupe & Knowles, predecessors of William Coupe & Company, began business in 1865. The works were swept by fire in 1872.

Power loom shuttles were first manufactured here in 1827 by Colonel Willard Blackinton, and in 1842 this firm was organized as W. Blackinton & Sons. Box manufacturing was begun here in 1852 by Hartford Babcock, and in 1879, H. S. Babcock began the same sort of business. The Attleboro Dye Works were founded by Robert Wolfenden in 1868.







PART VI.

# TOWNS OF BRISTOL COUNTY





# TOWNS OF BRISTOL COUNTY

---

## CHAPTER I.

### ACUSHNET\*

Acushnet has a distinction among the southwestern towns of Bristol county of having preserved one of the original Indian names from oblivion, or as near the original as may be, since old clerks and writers have spelled Acushnet with forty-two variations. For a period of twelve years, or from the time of the purchase from the Indians in 1652, to June 8, 1664, when all this territory became Dartmouth, the settlements were called by original names; and afterwards, as new divisions were made and new towns appeared, Acushnet survived among New Bedford, Fairhaven, Dartmouth and the Westports. Here the old town roads take the same direction as the early paths that brought John Cooke of Indian War garrison house fame, and son of Francis Cook of the "Mayflower," from Plymouth; and throughout this town and country are to be seen some of the oldest and some of the best preserved of the gambrel-roof houses of 1712 and thereabouts to 1770. The late Henry Worth, Esq., antiquarian, made a very complete survey of the old homes of this part of the county, and his collections included within the work of the late Franklyn Howland are of great value, since he has followed out the ownership of most of the ancient dwellings from the time of their building.

But the Acushnet of today also is a town of handsome, modern residences, attractive churches and schools. The population is over 3,000, the personal estate is valued at \$474,956, the real estate at \$2,680,470. It is second youngest town in the county, the act of incorporation having been approved February 13, 1860, and the town clerks since that time have been Benjamin White, George P. Morse, Dennis Mason, Alden White, Henry F. Taber, George T. Parker. Acushnet town meeting was first held in the engine house east of the bridge, March 14, 1860; from 1874 to 1878 at the Parting Ways schoolhouse; from 1878 at the old District Four schoolhouse. Hon. William W. Crapo has pointed out the fact that Acushnet Village was fifty years older than Bedford Village, and that there, in the early days, was the seat of government of old Dartmouth. He states that in 1739 a new town house was ordered to be built (this then being Dartmouth), and that it was in the Acushnet section; and the vote of the town indicated that the town house that superseded it was also in Acushnet.

In regard to the naming of the town, and the preservation of the Indian name, Franklyn Howland states in his history: The leaders of the movement for division were Jones Robinson, Rev. Israel Washburn, Cyrus Clark, Captain Martin L. Eldridge, Colonel Abiel P. Robinson, Walter Spooner, Benjamin White, William H. Washburn, Jabez Wood, Levi Wing and other townsmen. Their efforts were crowned with success, the com-

---

\*The story of the smaller townships of Bristol county here follows in alphabetical order, in preference to chronological sequence.

mittee of towns in 1860 reporting in favor of an act to incorporate the town of "North Fairhaven," a name by which this section of the town had been previously known. And the new town would have unfortunately been christened by the name of "North Fairhaven" had not Captain Eldridge led a protest against it, upon discovering the name in the bill as it passed the senate. He at once wrote the senator from this district, to have the bill held up until he received a petition to change the name. Then Captain Eldridge wrote a petition to the Legislature, which was liberally signed, to strike out the words "North Fairhaven" and insert the word "Acushnet."

**The Wars.**—The town has experienced the hardships and sufferings consequent upon all wars, beginning with that of the last struggle of the natives in 1675, when King Philip's warriors ravaged the settlements in their effort to get back what Massasoit and Wamsutta had peacefully exchanged in 1652. The historian Howland states that every house within the bounds was consumed by fire. The people had been here but a little while, some of them no more than twenty-five years, and now they were homeless and almost penniless in the midst of barbarous war.

The town was in arms against the encroachments upon the rights of the colonists on the part of the mother country at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, and at town meeting of July 18, 1774, it was voted to "boycott all articles manufactured in Great Britain and Ireland," and the town also voted to take measures against the use of Bohea tea. Before the war had started, committees of correspondence and safety were appointed, including such men in this part of the town as Captains Philip Taber, Seth Pope, Thomas Crandon, Seth Hathaway, Hannaniah Cornish, Walter Spooner, Obed Nye. Acushnet shared in the results of the invasion by the British on that memorable Saturday, September 5, 1778, when the enemy sailed from New London, Connecticut, in two frigates, an eighteen-gun brig-of-war and six transports, and with fire and sword almost annihilated the little settlement. All along the route of the invaders through this village, old homes were destroyed, following the demolition of the Fort Phenix at the entrance to Bedford harbor.

Five hundred men from Dartmouth, in which Acushnet was included at the time, were furnished for the Continental army. Among them were: Eleazar Hathaway, James Spooner, Jonathan Cushman, Thomas Crandon, Reuben Hathaway, David Hathaway, Daniel Bennett, Elisha Parker, Jonathan Hathaway, Elnathan Jenney, David Pope, David Spooner, Lemuel Cushman, John Hathaway, Jethro Taber, Silas Hathaway, Jesse Keen. Samuel Parker was among those from this part of the county who were incarcerated at Dartmoor prison.

In the War of 1812, many of the townsmen of the Acushnet section participated, including such leaders as Captain William Gordon, Judge Edward Pope, Captain Reuben Swift, and many others. In the Civil War, fifty-six soldiers and sailors cast in their lot for the Union cause.

**Churches and Schools.**—The first church to be established in this section of the Dartmouth country was the Precinct church of date 1696, and the first minister was Rev. Samuel Hunt. The building of the church was begun immediately by the society that called themselves "The people



of God Called Presbyterians." A protest made by Dartmouth against being assessed as a town for the support of the minister, brought about the result that Quakers and Baptists be exempted from paying taxes for town churches. The new meetinghouse of the society was dedicated January 5, 1744, the Precinct meetinghouse, as it was called, and that stood until 1837, when it was sold and torn down. Mr. Hunt's successors in the ministry here were: Revs. Richard Pierce, Israel Cheever, A. M., and Rev. Samuel West, D. D., who was pastor of the church forty years. Owing to the removal of many of the membership and congregation to adjoining towns, the life of this society was brought to a close.

Methodist preachers began to come to this part of the town to preach their doctrines before the year 1800. Captain John Hawes was the means of bringing here in 1805, Rev. Epaphras Kibby, a Methodist preacher, who with the aid of a congregation organized the Methodist Episcopal Church of Fairhaven in August, 1807. Eight persons constituted the original membership. The first meetinghouse of the society was built in 1811. Another building that was dedicated March 9, 1854, was destroyed by fire December 11, 1904. The present stone building was built on the old foundation, and dedicated December 1, 1905.

Methodist Episcopal interests at Long Plain were first provided for in 1823, when Rev. Phileas Crandall was appointed to the charge. He was succeeded in 1825 by Rev. Leonard B. Griffin, and in 1828 the "Sniptuit" chapel was built on the hill of that name. A Methodist Episcopal society was organized at Long Plain in 1857, and Rev. Philip Crandon was given charge of the church. The church worshiped in a small chapel previous to 1862, in which year the church building was erected.

The Friends first began to meet at the present Acushnet in 1708, and a meeting of worship was established by quarterly meeting the next year. It is probable that the original house was built in 1729. The Acushnet Preparative was a part of Dartmouth Monthly Meeting till near 1760, when it joined with the Sandwich Monthly Meeting; and again, in 1795 the Acushnet and the Long Plain societies became part of the Dartmouth Monthly Meeting, so remaining to the present time. The present meetinghouse at Parting Ways, Acushnet, was built in 1871, when the old meetinghouse was torn down.

The Baptist church in the present Long Plain section was organized April 27, 1787, by Elder Daniel Hix. The first church was built in 1796, south of the present Baptist meetinghouse, and Elder Hix continued to be the minister to his eightieth birthday. The church was incorporated March 14, 1805, as the First Baptist Society in New Bedford, this section then being part of that town. In 1837 the society brought its interests to a close temporarily, owing to varying denominational doctrines being preached, Elder Hix himself joining the "Christian" sect.

A Friends Meeting was begun at Long Plain in 1755, about which time the house was erected. One hundred years afterwards the building was reconstructed, and in 1900 it was remodeled as to the interior.

As an outcome of the denominational differences among the Baptists, whose religious interests waned in 1837, the First Christian Church of North Fairhaven (now in Acushnet) was begun in October, that year. From this society was started the Perry Hill church. Another outcome

of the 1837 inactivity of the old Long Plain Baptist Church was that of the reorganization of the society October 16, 1838, with Rev. Ira Leland as pastor, the society joining the Taunton Association. The present church was dedicated April 28, 1847. The Advent society was organized in this part of the town in 1858, and their church building constructed that year. In the early part of 1828 the Congregationalists began holding meetings in the Phenix schoolhouse. A small church building was constructed that was destroyed by fire February 5, 1865. The present church building was dedicated January 10, 1867. It was renovated and rededicated in 1889. St. Xavier Catholic Church was built in 1915, a former building of the Catholic people of Acushnet having burned at that time.

Among the better known of the former schools were Union Seminary, established in 1844 by Gideon Nye, Jireh Swift, and John R. and Obediah Davis, with Alonzo Tripp as the first and only principal, the school being discontinued after 1847. The Long Plain boarding school was started in 1831 by Rebecca H. Davis, a school that was in existence about twenty years; here also were the Kempton school of 1830 and the Russell school of the early 1850's. It is probable that the first district schoolhouse in Acushnet was located at Parting Ways, where Eliokim Willis taught in 1738. Subsequently, schoolhouses were built on the north side of the road between Lund's Corner and the bridge, on the lot at the north side of Tarkiln hill, and on the lot south of the Congregational church property. Soon after 1812 the town was divided into nine districts, each of which supported a school. In 1874 Schoolhouse No. 4 was dedicated, this being the present town house and library. The schoolhouse at Long Plain was built in 1875; the Perry Hill school in 1877; the old schoolhouse at Parting Ways was enlarged in 1901; the Marie S. Howard school was built in 1919-1920; the Mason W. Burt school in 1921. The appropriation for the maintenance of the schools in this town in 1923 was \$45,775, the total school membership being 827. Charles Holmes was superintendent of schools.

**Industries, etc.**—It is stated that the first vessels to be built along Acushnet river were built in this part of the town before the year 1800. Emery Cushman started the Cushman box factory business in 1874. The mill was destroyed by fire August 1, 1904, but was soon rebuilt, and furnished employment to about sixty men. So early as 1707 there was a mill on the old mill lot, and since that time there have been a number of saw and box mills at the location, the last grist mill disappearing in 1903. At the site of the Acushnet Saw Mill Company's plant, Captain William Gordon had a wool-carding mill in 1818; a Mr. Almy manufactured cloth, batting and candle-wick in 1834; Shadrack Davis made nail kegs in 1836; Jonathan P. Lund with Charles W. Morgan built a paper mill in 1840. In 1867 Parkman M. Lund sold the plant to various other parties, and in March, 1907, a corporation was formed with Jonathan C. Hawes as president. Other cotton factories on the river have been the White Brothers' factory, the Whelden factory, and the Ansel White factory; and other industries no longer active were the iron mine on the Morse homestead, and Taber's mills.

North Fairhaven postoffice was first established December 30, 1820,



with James Taber as postmaster, and it was transferred to Acushnet Village February 11, 1829, with Gustavus Gilbert as postmaster. The name of the office was changed to Acushnet in 1864. The postoffice at Long Plain was established in 1834.

Acushnet's Free Public Library was opened June 13, 1896, and a branch was soon afterwards established at Long Plain, and one at Perry Hill. The first trustees of the Acushnet Library were: George J. Parker, chairman; Mrs. Anna H. Bradford, treasurer; Miss Emily A. Brownell, secretary.

Close to the centre of the village is situated Pine Lawn Sanitarium, the former Nye estate, that was purchased in 1900 by Mrs. L. E. Ashley for the care of invalids.

---

## CHAPTER II.

### BERKLEY

Berkley from the first has been a recluse, a meditative individual among the southeastern Massachusetts towns, whose life from childhood to this, her great age, has not held notable interest whether in industry or growth, as measured by that of most of the Old Colony towns and their suburbs. Berkley resides both in old homes and new, beside Taunton Great river, still delighting in the traditions of her firesides, the friendliness of her gray roofs, the excellence of her gardens, and her treasured relics of generations. Yet it is no regret of hers that a little way in another direction, and not too near her borders pass the railroad trains; or that away over yonder speed the electric cars. Her lot happened to be placed somewhat aside from main-traveled ways between cities, and the railroads here have no port of call. A league above her residence, and a league below the river turn the wheels of many mills; but the stream runs past her doors without obstruction, as in the days of Massachusetts. A very ancient road is Berkley street; it was an old trail and path before Berkley was made a town. It is one with its rolling knolls and its small vales, and has made but little attempt to modernize its environment. Follow it faithfully and far, and it will lead to home locations not many years this side of the settlement of Plymouth, itself.

Within only a mile of the spot where Edward "Bobit," founder of the Bobbitt or the Babbitt clans (and who was killed in 1675, at the outbreak of the King Philip War, and whose remains lie buried here), built his first house, in 1923 lives former Representative Rollin H. Babbitt, of the sixth generation from Edward, the first settler. The residence of Mr. Babbitt was built and dwelt in by Major Adoniram Crane, also a descendant of early settlers, and an ancestor of Professor Joshua E. Crane, librarian of Taunton Public Library. Both names, Babbitt and Crane, are associated with the incorporation of the town in April, 1735, and the first town meeting, May 12, 1735, was held at the house of Elkanah Babbitt, when Gershom Crane acted as moderator. Abel Burt was the first town clerk; selectmen were Nathaniel Gilbert, John Burt, Gershom Crane; and assessors at that period were Benaiah Crane, John Paull, Joseph Burt.

Mr. Babbitt's home and its surroundings are as colonial in effect as one might wish to see. Within are the long, low rooms with oaken beams and furniture of the quiet old style; outside, a landscape as quiet, with its green lawns sloping to the "Taunton Great River."

It is generally understood that Berkley was so named for George Berkeley, Bishop of Cloyne, Ireland, who wrote the prophetic stanzas beginning "Westward the course of empire takes its way"—who for awhile was a resident of Newport, Rhode Island, and who had intimate friends in this township. But there is another contention that the name was suggested by the members of the Axtell and other families whose homes had been in the Carolinas while the famous Governor Berkeley was the leader there.

Yet we also read that Bishop Berkeley had intended that the church in this town should have an organ, which, however, never left Newport, owing to the prejudice of the congregations against instrumental music at that period; and it is stated that the church organ intended for Berkley is in use at Trinity Church, in Newport, today. The change in the spelling of the name Berkley from that of Berkeley is due to the traditional clerical carelessness in the registry office. The Hon. Charles A. Reed, of Taunton, once protested against the generally accepted reasons given for the naming of the town in our local histories, as Berkley had no existence as a precinct, or as a parish, even, before 1735, and that the organ sent over by Bishop Berkeley was presented in 1733 to Trinity Church at Newport. Mr. Reed further declared: "It will be found, we confidently assert, that the first settlers of that ancient portion of Taunton (Berkley), the Burts and other original families, drew that name from the Berkeleys of Virginia and the Carolinas, with whom they had alliance from the vale of the Berkeley on the Severn, the ancient home of the Berkeleys in old England."

**Churches and Schools.**—The story of Berkley, like that of others of the ancient townships in New England, is religious as to its beginnings, main interests centring about the meetinghouse, and the leaders of the "meeting" and their message. The town was incorporated April 18, 1735, and the very next year, 1736, a meetinghouse was built at the south end of the Common. At the second town meeting, October 6, 1735, it was voted to hire a scholar to preach "in the town for the space of a quarter of a year," and it was also voted to hire a schoolmaster—the usual way at town origins hereabouts, religion and the schools taking the lead at once.

Rev. Samuel Tobey, typical minister of a typical first settlement, made his advent here with his ordination, November 23, 1737, and for nearly forty-four years, or until his death, which occurred February 13, 1781, he was a father to this small flock, faithful and devout, "of eminent abilities and great common sense," as the late Rev. Enoch Sanford wrote of him. In all, there were forty-nine members of this church, most of whom were in the habit of going the long distance to Taunton or Dighton to meeting. Rev. Samuel Tobey was a native of Sandwich, Massachusetts, and he graduated at Harvard College in 1733. He married Bathsheba Crocker, September 6, 1738, and they lived in the lean-to parsonage that stood near the common. Their farm was twenty-five or thirty acres in extent, and they reared a family of twelve children.



Upon the death of Rev. Mr. Tobey, there came to minister to Berkley folk, a Revolutionary patriot and soldier, Rev. Thomas Andros. He was born at Norwich, Connecticut, May 1, 1754, and his is a story that is worth re-telling. At the breaking out of the Revolution, in 1775, he joined the Continental army at sixteen years of age, the army then being encamped at Cambridge. He witnessed the evacuation of Boston, and afterwards shared in the battles of Long Island and White Plains, and under General Sullivan at Butts Hill. The severest part of his experience was that, when enlisting in 1781 for service on a private armed vessel, the latter was captured by an English frigate and condemned to the "old Jersey prison-ship" in New York harbor. Andros somehow made his escape after suffering terrible hardships. Recovering his health, he gave his life to the ministry. Rev. Mr. Andros was also a devoted and faithful minister, and the church increased in interest under his care. He lived in his parsonage near the meetinghouse twenty years. He was twice married, first to Abigail Cutler, of Killingly, Connecticut, by whom he had nine children. His second wife was Sophia Sanford, and they had eight children. He made a special study of the languages and the classics, and he published a number of sermons and essays in pamphlet form. Among his descendants were writers of note, and a number of master mariners. The Berkley minister received the honorary degree of A. M. from Brown University in 1790. Rev. Ebenezer Poor, of Danvers, succeeded to this pastorate—an interesting preacher who remained two years. Then came Rev. J. U. Parsons, who was pastor from 1838 to 1840. He was author of school readers and some religious works. Rev. Charles Chamberlain, tutor at Brown University, came here and remained two years, from 1842 to 1844.

The first meetinghouse of the society, built in 1736, was a very plain house of worship. Some time previous to 1798 the old house was taken down and the new meetinghouse was built on the same spot, November 22, 1798, the architect being Isaac Babbitt of this town, who built the Dighton and Berkley bridge as well as Howland's Ferry bridge, Weir Village bridge, factories, etc. The second meetinghouse had a lofty steeple and a bell. The house had galleries on three sides, and there was a lofty pulpit. Two pews were built for negroes at the corner above the stairs, though never occupied, said Rev. Enoch Sanford, historian, "except by John Terry, who was as much better than many below him as his seat was above them." After this house had stood over fifty years, it gave way to the more commodious one which stands on the same spot where the two others had stood. Adjacent to the meetinghouse is the neat and attractive parsonage.

In 1848 the Congregationalists became divided in their beliefs, and the Trinitarian Congregational Society in Berkley was formed March 1 that year, by twenty members of the older church, and a number of others. They built a church edifice which was called the chapel, and they had for their first pastor Rev. L. R. Eastman, who remained here from April, 1848, to March, 1856. He was succeeded by Rev. James A. Roberts, who continued his pastorate from April, 1856, to September, 1872.

The First Methodist Episcopal Church was organized here March 1, 1873, Rev. Mr. Roberts' flock, the Trinitarians, joining with them, and occupying the chapel. There they continued to hold their services until

1875, when a building was erected at a cost of \$7,500. After a succession of pastorates, their interest waned, or was transferred to the Methodist church at Myricks.

In 1903 the Congregational church, that was built in 1848, was burned, and the members of that society purchased the Methodist church building that stood about one-half mile north of the Green, and they had it removed to its present location. The pastors that succeeded Rev. Mr. Andros were Rev. Ebenezer Poor, of Danvers, from 1835 to 1837; Rev. J. U. Parsons, 1838-40; Rev. Charles Chamberlain, 1842-44. Several pastors occupied the pulpit from that time. Then, in 1870, Rev. Samuel B. Fairleigh was installed, to remain until 1876; Rev. William H. Teel was here from 1876 to 1878; Rev. William A. Chamberlain to 1881; Rev. Leonard S. Parker from 1882 to 1886; Rev. J. W. Wright (who was a chaplain in the Civil War), to 1892; Rev. George Sterling to 1895; Rev. Franklin K. Beem to 1900; Rev. William R. Josselyn to 1904; Rev. George Christie to 1910; Rev. Mr. Humphries to 1916; Rev. George M. Whyte to 1923; Rev. Albert H. Plumb, the present incumbent.

No sooner was the town organized and the local meetinghouse established, than the school was begun, the first teachers being John and Jonathan Crane, each receiving a small sum by town meeting vote. Rowland Gavin succeeded these as teacher, and his school was kept in various sections of the town. He not only taught reading, writing and arithmetic, but also navigation. The schoolroom, it is recorded, was usually at the homes of some of the townsmen; but the first schoolhouse was built in 1763. Thirty years afterwards, or in 1793, the town was divided into four school districts; later, into five, then into six, and after the accession of Assonet Neck there were seven school districts. The town voted £120 in 1794 to the four school districts for the building of schoolhouses, and in 1800, with the town's population 1034, there were more than 400 pupils in the several school districts. It is an interesting fact of retardation of town progress that in 1880 the population of the town was nearly one hundred less than it had been eighty years before, and the pupils in the schools numbered 163. These country schools were the nurseries of numbers of excellent teachers, who not only taught in Berkley schools but also in academies and colleges. Such teachers and professors were: Captain Joseph Sanford, Levi French, Colonel Adoniram Crane, Captain Giles G. Chace, the Sanford brothers—James, John, Enoch, Alpheus and Baalis, Silas A. Benjamin, Daniel and Abiathar Crane, Ebenezer Hervey, William M. and B. L. Cornell, David French, Darius Phillips, Daniel S. Briggs, Enoch Boyce, Thomas C. Dean, Dr. S. Hathaway, Walter D. Nichols, P. Chester Potter, Thomas P. Paull. There were six schools in the town in 1923, and Walter K. Putney was the superintendent.

**In the Wars.**—The home life of the first settlers was broken up at the time of King Philip's War, in 1675. Although it has been stated that King Philip, or Metacomet, was friendly to the Leonards and the people at the ironworks, yet the red men were prowling about this territory and destroying property, their minds set upon obtaining what had once belonged to their race. They were now ravaging Berkley, and the settlers left the region in a body, to get nearer to the larger settlement at Taunton Green.



The family of Edward Bobbit was among those who had temporarily fled from Berkley. But Edward Bobbit himself met death at the hands of the Indians, and the family tradition regarding the incident is to this effect: It appears according to one of the versions that Bobbit made an attempt to return to his home to find a cheese-hoop or similar article or household utensil. He had with him a dog who by his whining warned his master of the neighborhood of some danger. Bobbit took the hint and climbed a tree. The dog continuing to remain near the tree and keeping up its whining, drew the attention of an Indian, who, seeing the predicament of the settler, fired at him and killed him. Later on, his family returning found him, and buried him at about that place. Bobbit is said to have been the first white man killed in this vicinity. The stone that was placed at the head of his grave is now at Historical Hall, in Taunton.

The revolt against the mother country was favored here, the town voting in 1774 that the resolves of the Continental Congress be observed in every particular. Each minute-man when called into active service, was to receive five dollars as a bounty, and in 1775 the militia was directed to be in training one-half day each week, and to receive one shilling therefor. From time to time the town voted substantial sums for additional bounty for men filling up the quota of the Continental army; and it is believed a large number of men joined the service from this town. Among the pensioners mentioned were Captain Joseph Sanford, Josiah Macomber, Samuel Paull, William Evans, Ezra Chace, Paul Briggs. A regiment was under command of Colonel John Hathaway from this town, and it is related that in the absence of his chaplain he officiated in that capacity. After the war, regimental musters and May training were great local events. At most of such musters, Abner Burt, Jr., was adjutant, Adoniram Crane was colonel, and among the captains were Samuel French, senior, Joseph Sanford, Christopher Paull, Freeman Briggs, Giles G. Chace, Giles Leach, Nathaniel Townsend, John Dean. It was Captain Giles Chace who had charge of a company that was ordered to New Bedford during the war of 1812-1814.

Again, in 1861, the town responded promptly to the call of President Lincoln, the town's quota being quickly filled, and generous bounties were offered in addition to those of the State. Seventy-one men were in service from this town. In the Spanish-American War, seventy-six men were enlisted.

During the World War, the town joined unreservedly in the work of the Red Cross and in the various drives, and thirty men from Berkley were in the service, for whom an honor roll tablet is to be placed in Town Hall.

**Industries, etc.**—Here and there, some old settler will point out to you a landing, a remnant of a wharf, or a vessel-building ways by the river-bank. And you will be told that Edmund Burt or Darius Newhall or Ephraim French built many small vessels, and that a number of master mariners had their homes in this section. It is stated that Hon. Samuel Tobey began to build ships here about the year 1790, his first ventures being six ships for European trade and four smaller vessels for the West India trade; Elkanah Hathaway built three schooners and two sloops about

the year 1804; Ebenezer Crane built two sloops of thirty-five tons each in 1808. But his vessels were built one mile inland, and it took "forty yoke of oxen, one hundred men and a barrel of rum" to get the craft to the river. Others who built vessels in and about Berkley were: Darius Newhall, who built three schooners, two brigs and five sloops, from 1804 to 1815; Edmund Burt, who with others built three vessels in 1815; Jedediah Briggs, who in 1827 built a steamboat and a schooner; Ephraim French, who built six schooners and three sloops, from 1809 to 1833; Henry Crane, George Crane, Simeon Briggs, Edward Babbitt built twenty-six schooners, eight brigs, one bark and five sloops from 1820 to 1866.

The Berkley postoffice was established in 1818. The present Public Library building was constructed in 1918 from the Carnegie fund. The first bridge from Berkley to Dighton was built in 1806. The second was erected there by the county in 1872.

The shipbuilder and philanthropist, Thomas Coram, was owner of fifty-nine acres near Burt's Corner, the site of which is the estate of the late Herbert A. Dean. By Captain Coram's will this land was disposed of to the vestry of King's Chapel, in Boston, the proceeds going towards the erection of that building, in 1754.

Assonet Neck is a part of Berkley, and was annexed thereto in 1799. Here the natives enjoyed their permanent camping ground, because of its neighborhood to the fisheries. Plymouth Colony took possession of this tract of land, and in 1678 it was sold to Taunton for £150. Six proprietors bought it shortly thereafter—George Shove, Walter Deane, James Walker, James Tisdale, William Harvey, Richard Williams. When Dighton was organized in 1712, it became a part of that town, and in 1799 it became a part of Berkley, the peninsula being about two square miles of land. It is on the northwestern part of the Neck that the celebrated "Writing Rock" is situated.

**Myricks.**—As to Myricks, a part of Berkley, it was the former great cattle show and the picnic events that proclaimed that part of the town, and that sent the voices of many a forgotten railroad conductor echoing down through the future, with the insistent "all aboard for Myricks." In 1879 Myricks said good-bye to the home-hearth of Taunton, and went over to join the household of Berkley. The idea of the proposed change was not entirely unanimous among the residents; but it was generally maintained that the settlement would be the gainer in an all-round decrease in expenses by going over from Taunton to Berkley. The proposition for a division of the then southeasterly section of Taunton by setting off the neighborhood of Myricks to Berkley, was made in a petition before the State Legislature by thirty of the forty-four residents of the locality. The event was consummated February 8, 1879, when the selectmen of Berkley, at a town meeting held in reference to a petition of Julius Haskins and others, voted to extend the hand of welcome to the district. Thus took place the last of the five divisions that were made in the original bounds of Taunton township. Among the original settlers in this part of the town was a family named Myricks, though they spelled their name variously, Myrick, Merrick, Marick, and in other ways. Isaac, Obed and Calvin Myricks being among the first of the name here.



It was the cattle show that gave fame to Myricks. The Bristol County Central Cattle Show and Fair, as it was officially known, was maintained continuously from 1858 to 1876, the last exhibition of the name taking place September 14-15-16, 1876, after which its thousands of spectators and participators went away to return no more, save as some smaller percentage of them later attended the annual clambake of the Methodist society. Successful as that fair was, there were yet older fairs and longer-lived, the exhibition at Myricks being an offshoot of the older Taunton fair that had its beginnings in 1823, with such men as Oliver Ames and William Mason as its officials, and Hon. Francis Baylies among its speakers; but few of the old fair landmarks remain here—the L. P. Churchill board and box mill, a building of stone having been the former exhibition building of the fair. Nearby is the gambrel roof house built by the Myricks family in the early part of the seventeenth century. Farther up on Myricks street, near where the village schoolhouse now is, once stood the Myricks Academy, and to the right is the village church, Methodist Episcopal.

Myricks Academy was an institution that for a half century was conducted for the purpose of preparing pupils for college and the business of life, and its teachers were well equipped for their vocation. Students were enrolled from not only the local district, but numbers came from a distance. The academy opened for its first term in 1853. The principals were J. W. Spaulding, Judge William H. Fox, Benjamin Crane, F. A. Knowlton, George M. Paull. Eventually the academy was sold to Taunton for a public school. It was burned in the Myricks fire of October 25, 1904, which fire also destroyed a number of other buildings and residences in the village. Myricks has had the misfortune to be desolated by two other fires, those of November 15, 1922, and June 1, 1923, when postoffice, stores and residences were destroyed and many people made homeless.

---

### CHAPTER III.

#### DARTMOUTH

Township of many prosperous farms of the county, of substantial and quaint homes of natives, and attractive residences of newcomers, as well as of the century-old Quaker meeting, Dartmouth alone retains the first English name given the extensive territory that once comprised New Bedford, Westport, Fairhaven and Acushnet. Like Westport, among the southern towns its scenery is greatly diversified both as to farmlands and shoreward property; and because of its slightly rural and inland districts, and its harbors and seashore, it has become both the permanent home of numbers of New Bedford business men, and the summer resort of prominent families from New York and other large cities. For generations, too, townspeople here have in many instances retained and increased the productive values of property; and here, again, as elsewhere in the county, thrifty foreign-born have bought up old lands and by intensive farming restored and kept up such parts of the town. The approximate population

of Dartmouth as a whole in 1923 was 6,500, and the valuation of the personal property within the town was placed at \$1,172,125, and the real estate at \$7,466,975.

North Dartmouth and Smith's Mills within recent years had been having a building boom of new residences, and are numbered among the progressive sections of the town. All that portion north of Allen street has been placed in No. 3 fire district, with the purchase and location there of a new combination Maxim fire engine. South Dartmouth includes Padanaram, Bliss Corner and Smith's Neck, mostly the summer resort part of the town, where are located the town hall, the central library, the high school, and the New Bedford Yacht Club. Russell's Mills is residence of many Quaker descendants, and the location of the old Friends' meetinghouse. It was from that meetinghouse and its group of Friends that one of the principal scenes in the play "Down to the Sea in Ships" was obtained. The town has excellent fire and police service. J. W. Baxter is first chief of police. Benjamin J. Potter, town clerk and treasurer for thirty-two years, died in September, 1923.

Dartmouth lands, when first purchased of the Indians in 1652 had for original proprietors thirty-six persons, most of whom were from Plymouth and its neighborhood, and a number of whom, although the land was apparently bought for speculation, settled here. Hon. William W. Crapo in an historical address concerning Dartmouth in its beginnings stated that the records of the Colony of Rhode Island show that a part of the present towns of Tiverton and Little Compton, prior to 1746, were a part of Dartmouth. Massasoit and his son, Wamsutta, on November 29, 1652, conveyed by deed to William Bradford, Captain Myles Standish, Thomas Southworth, John Winslow and John Cooke and their associates "all the tracts of land lying three miles eastward from a river called Cushenegg to the harbor of Coaksett, to a flat rock on the westward side of said harbor," and the price paid was thirty yards of cloth, eight moose-skins, fifteen axes, fifteen hoes, fifteen pairs of breeches, eight blankets, two kettles, one cloak, two pounds in wampum, eight pairs of stockings, eight pairs of shoes, an iron pot, and ten shillings in other commodities.

No doubt exists that Dartmouth was so called from the town of the name in England, and Mr. Crapo contends that the original causes for the settlement of the town were those that had to do with compulsory taxation for religious purposes, the Baptists and the Quakers stoutly and successfully resisting the tax apportioned for the support of ministers, in addition to the province tax—even to the extent of the imprisonment of four of the selectmen for the disobedience of the town in relation to the tax. The town was incorporated in 1664, and the struggle for religious freedom continued until 1724. The first town house was built in 1739, and the town records show that the town house was removed on two different occasions to and from the easterly and westerly villages. Larger questions territorially than those relating to the town were brought up at that period, notably that in 1746, when it was proposed to divide the county and join Tiverton and Little Compton with the town as a new county; later the proposition was brought up to change the county seat to Assonet rather than to Taunton. Town meeting rules were exact and strict as to attendance, and fines were exacted for neglect. General road repairing was begun



as early as 1685, and that year any, including Indians, who killed wolves or bears, were paid for their trouble from the town treasury.

**First Settlers.**—Concerning the first white men's homes in Dartmouth, called by the Indians Apponegansett, Henry B. Worth, Esq., has stated in his paper "The Homes of Apponegansett Before 1710," that the earliest settlement was on the east side of the Acushnet river, between its head and Fort Phenix. Here were the farms of Jenney, Hathaway, Cook, Shaw, Palmer, Cuthbert, and east of Nastatucket brook Lieutenant Jonathan Delanose, and still farther east, next to the Mattapoisett line, the farm of Samuel Hicks. But he states, so far as known, there was no settlement on the west side of the Acushnet river before 1700. The pioneer settler, states Mr. Worth, was probably Ralph Earle, by whom the Dartmouth lands were brought to the attention of the Portsmouth people. His farm comprised over four hundred acres. With the exception of the northeast corner of Clark's Cove that was assigned to Abraham Tucker, and the northwest corner laid out to Nathaniel Howland, the whole of Padanaram Neck north of Bush street was comprised in the homestead of John Russell. The house of the latter was located near the shore in the swampy pasture, and was defended as a garrison by English soldiers. He came to Dartmouth in 1663, and, not long after, Matthew Allen became his neighbor on the south. The extreme end of the neck was owned by William Durfee. On the north side of the cove road was the homestead of Nathaniel Howland, who settled here not far from 1690. West of the Slocum road was the farm of John Sherman, who came from Portsmouth before 1660. In 1710 there were seven long narrow farms extending from the Pascamansett river on the west to the Apponegansett river on the east. They were those of Eleazer Smith, John Briggs, Jireh Reed and Captain William Penn Briggs; the farm of the sons of John Sherman, Ezra and Ensign Baker; and of William and Peleg Sherman.

About the year 1800, continues Mr. Worth, emigration from Cape Cod came to this section, the Bakers from Dennisville settling in Bakersville, hence the name. On the south side of the Smith Neck road and including the Holder Brownell farm, was the homestead of Judah Smith, and to the south the farm of his brother Gershom; while next south, and fronting on the Potomska road, was the homestead of Edmund Sherman. West of the last three farms was the homestead of John Lapham. The farms of Judah and Gershom Smith constituted the homestead of their father, John Smith, as early as 1672. In the conveyances before the Revolutionary War, Smith's Neck is always designated as Namquid Neck. The extreme end of that neck is Mischawum Point, laid out to John Russell about 1690. The end of Smith's Neck is called Salter's Point, but two hundred years ago, says Mr. Worth, this name was written Salt-house point and L. A. Littlefield states there was a saltworks. Other early settlements were those of Captain John Akin, Thomas Briggs, Hezekiah Smith, Deliverance Smith, Benjamin Howland, Giles Slocum. And the historian concludes with the statement: The names of the early settlers are no longer found in the old locations. All of the thirty farms have been divided into smaller homesteads, and on several are large and populous villages with costly mansions and villas occupied by prominent people from every section of the land.

Edward T. Tucker in "Old Dartmouth Historical Sketches" states that the home of Job S. Gidley, prominent Friend and townsman, and former town clerk, was built about the year 1720. On its site stood, about the year 1680, the stone house of Henry Tucker, whose son John occupied it at the opening of the eighteenth century. A guest at this house in 1699, at a time of the Apponegansett Friends meeting, was Thomas Story, associate of William Penn, and first recorder of Philadelphia. Among other Friends who had located in this neighborhood were Adam Mott, Abraham Tucker, Jr., Henry Tucker.

The best recollections of early Dartmouth history are contained in the "Old Dartmouth Historical Papers," and in one of these L. A. Littlefield has said concerning the naming of Padanaram: As nearly as can be ascertained, it originated with Laban Thatcher, who came from Harwich, this State, about 1805, and had a shipyard here. The first mention of Padanaram occurred in a deed given by him in 1828, and it is supposed that the circumstances of his life corresponded with the Bible story of Laban, who lived in Padanaram, and prompted him to give the place that name. Mr. Littlefield continues interestingly to say that during the British invasion of September 5 and 6, 1778, several buildings owned by Elihu Akin at this place were burned. Among the early settlers was Captain John Akin, who was in Colonel Benjamin Church's company, and he was also town clerk, selectman and representative. His sons James and Elihu owned a vessel that the British burned on the stocks when they raided the town. Benjamin Akin, also a son of Captain John, was town clerk in 1789, and lived at the head of Apponegansett river.

The resolve made at town meeting July 18, 1774, in Dartmouth, voiced the sentiment of the patriots with regard to the stand that should be taken against the unjust taxation imposed by the English king upon the Colonists. It was to this effect: "that we will not purchase any goods manufactured in Great Britain and Ireland which shall be imported from thence after this day; that we will not purchase any English goods of any hawker or peddler; that we will not purchase any foreign teas whatever; that we will not export any flax-seed to any foreign market." The town was well represented at the patriotic gathering of county men at Taunton. There were fifty-five men from Dartmouth in Captain Thomas Kempton's company, of Colonel Danielson's regiment, to the first of August, 1775, the time of enlistment having started in May, and the time of service, with few exceptions, being three months. The committee of correspondence and safety for the township in 1776 consisted of General Church, Seth Pope, Abraham Shearman, James Soule, Nathaniel Richmond, Philip Taber, Par-don Brownell, William Wood.

The military record of the men of Dartmouth in the Civil War was in keeping with loyalty to country exhibited and proven at country's call, more than 140 men enlisting in various regiments. In service for the World War, 175 men were enrolled; four died in the regular service, and one in Red Cross service.

**Churches and Schools.**—The town had been set apart but thirty-five years when the first record of Friends' meetings was made, in 1699, and the deed of their first meetinghouse has the date 1706, the building having



been constructed upon the same lot of the present Apponegansett meetinghouse. The first yearly meeting of record was held at the house of John Lapham in 1699. Before 1788 this meeting was in charge of the Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, but from that time onwards it was connected with the Sandwich Quarterly Meeting. Quarterly meetings are still held there. Later, meetinghouses were built at Smith's Neck, Smith's Mills and Allen's Neck. The Gurneyite Friends form the larger body of the Quakers in this section today, the separation having taken place in 1845.

A branch of Elder Jacob Hix's church of Rehoboth was organized here as the First Baptist Church of Dartmouth in May, 1780, and on October 10, 1781, Elder Daniel Hix was installed as pastor. This church identified itself with the Christian denomination in June, 1807, when all church creeds were set aside, and the Bible alone was accepted as the standard of faith and practice.

The establishment of the Congregational church in this town was brought about in 1807, with Rev. Daniel Emerson as the first pastor, the church edifice being built in 1817. A South Dartmouth Baptist church, now closed, was formed in May, 1831, as a branch of the New Bedford Baptist Church. Yet another church formed in 1836, the Second Christian Church, is not active at this time. The Methodist Episcopal church, organized in 1838, has declined in interest and membership. The Smith Mills Christian Church was formed December 22, 1838, the house being built just previously. The Christian Church in the Bakerville district was built in 1837, the organization taking place in 1838.

Within a few years, The Roman Catholic Bishop has purchased property in South Dartmouth, and established a Catholic church, under the direction of Rev. Father James Noon, of St. James Church, New Bedford.

Dr. Andrew B. Cushman, chairman of the Dartmouth school committee, and for whom was named the new school erected in 1923 on Dartmouth street near Davis' Corner, in his report for 1922 stated that the appropriation for Dartmouth school purposes had grown from \$5,000 in 1890 to \$60,000 in 1922, while the pupils' transportation account, which was \$200 in 1898, when schools consolidation began, was \$10,000 in 1922. The average school attendance in 1890 was 474; in 1922 it was 1,219. In 1891 the school committee first advised the establishment of a school superintendency, and since that time the following-named have served in that capacity: Seth S. Crocker, Clarence E. Brockway, Winthrop N. Crocker, Ernest P. Carr, Albert S. Cole, Leon E. Prior, Frederick L. Kendall, A. R. Paull. The town in 1922 appropriated \$150,000 for the two new school buildings—the Job S. Gidley school at North Dartmouth, and the Andrew B. Cushman school in the south part of the town. The dates of building of schools in the town follow: Bliss Corner, occupied in 1893; Smith Mills, 1897; Padanaram, 1903; Hixville, 1907; Bliss Corner addition, 1907; Smith Mills addition, 1907; Faunce Corner, 1910; Russell's Mills, 1914; Lincoln, 1916; Bliss Corner addition, 1916; Collins, 1917; Bakerville, 1920; Sanford's Corner, 1921. The Charles H. Howland high school was built in 1901.

The first schoolmaster in the town was Christopher Faunce, who was accepted as a grammar schoolmaster in 1728. William Lake was schoolmaster in 1733, at £45 a year. William Palmer, who succeeded him, also taught navigation.

Job S. Gidley, in an historical survey of the schools here, has concluded that houses for public schools were not built until after the town was redistricted in 1816, and that the first schoolhouse was built at the Seth Davis Corner. In 1827 the town elected its first board of school committee, previous to which the schools had been in charge of a prudential committee, and in 1866 the school district system was abolished.

Shipyards sprang up along the river banks for quite a period of years from 1820, in the Padanaram section, says L. A. Littlefield. About the year 1826 or 1827, Charles Matthews and Matthew Thatcher were engaged in shipbuilding at Deep Water Point. Daniel Homer also had a shipyard here, and built the large vessel called "Nimrod." About 1845, whaleships were built by Alonzo Matthews, John Mashow, James M. Babbitt and Frederick Smalley, and Padanaram at one time shared its whaling interests with New Bedford, with its fleet of seven barks and ships. Between 1834 and 1836 the first bridge was built over Apponegansett river by a corporation composed of Nathaniel Howland, Caleb Anthony, Gilbert Howland, Joseph Bailey, Richard Sandford, Clark Ricketson, Luther Kirby; this bridge being maintained as a toll bridge to 1870, when it was made free to the public. The present bridge was completed in 1902.

**Libraries, etc.**—The North Dartmouth Library, founded in 1902, says the librarian, Miss Alice W. Gidley, has grown in twenty years from a few dozen books to a collection of nearly 3,000, and the library supplies the Smith Mills, the Collins and Lincoln Schools. Russell's Mills Library has a circulation of about 4,300; Miss Mary A. Tucker is librarian. The John H. Southworth Library, in South Dartmouth, was dedicated February 1, 1890, and in 1923 had over 7,000 books. Miss Theodosia P. Chase was the librarian, Miss Frances S. Taber assistant. The Apponegansett Library was opened in 1921, Miss Alice D. Meyers assistant.

Among the societies that do much towards the general improvement and progress of the town are the Padanaram Improvement Association, Henry C. Robinson, president, and the Farmers' Club, Elmer Poole president.

---

## CHAPTER IV.

### DIGHTON

Dighton, busy and progressive river town, named for Frances Dighton, wife of Richard Williams, one of the first purchasers of Taunton, has always been a place of industries, whether of agriculture and garden-making, or ship-building or cotton-manufacturing and its allied interests. The first comers remembered the Four Corners neighborhood—then running in various directions and of several hundreds of acres—as an extensive garden that had been planted by the natives. In later years the white settlers had their gardens throughout that section; a part of the "Old Field," as it was called, within our times has been made use of as the Dighton Nursery, by Dr. Alfred Wood; and still more recently on portions of that same Old Field, the Azoreans and Western Islanders who have immigrated





WORLD-FAMOUS WRITING ROCK AT DIGHTON





in numbers and purchased many of the old homesteads hereabouts have made thrifty use of much of the land with their own orchards and gardens. Dighton thus agriculturally, at least, is particularly interesting in its transitions from one race to another in succession.

**In Early Days.**—George Shove, Esq., historian, has made interesting reference to a fact that previous to the permanent settlement of this territory, transient settlers, hunters and small farmers, built their homes along the edge of the old Indian farmland of which mention has been made. Who these were, there remains no further record, but it is understood that all had left before the outbreak of the King Philip War in 1675, with the exception of Captain Jared Talbot, who, when the war actually made itself evident, went over to Taunton to join the colonists at the garrison house. The name of Jared Talbot is the first to appear in the old records of this Purchase. When the white settlers began to buy land of the natives, this was called the Taunton South Purchase, and it was conveyed to the purchasers in two sections and on two different occasions. A committee of the First Purchasers, consisting of William Brenton, Esq., William Harvey, James Walker, Richard Williams, Walter Deane, George Macy and John Richmond, received the deed of the first section September 28, 1672, paying therefor £143, the property being three miles wide along the river, and four miles in length. These men transferred the deed, with the exception of their own rights, to Rev. George Shove, third minister of Taunton, and seventy-six associates. The deed of the second part of the purchase was dated October 1 the same year, and it was transferred to Constant Southworth, treasurer of the Plymouth Colony who paid for it £47, transferring the deed to the committee mentioned. This section was one mile wide on the river and four miles long. Soon after this transaction, a Two-Mile Purchase, so-called, was sold to Swansea. Permanent settlement began to be made in the Purchase soon after the King Philip War, but the earliest family record that has been preserved concerning the section is that which announces the marriage of Jared Talbot and Rebecca Hathaway, May 4, 1687. It is believed that theirs was the first frame house in Dighton. And prior to 1712, the year of the incorporation of the town, the names of the South Purchase dwellers mentioned are those of David Walker, Edward Shove, Ebenezer Pitts, Samuel Talbot, Nathan Walker, John Burt and Abraham Hathaway. The town of Dighton was incorporated May 30, 1712.

At about the time of the town's incorporation, the residents of the present Berkley and Dighton joined their holdings on the river by a ferry, which was situated about a half mile below the present Berkley and Dighton bridge. In 1715 Captain Jared Talbot and Deacon Abraham Hathaway were given charge of the use of the ferry-boat, which was to be free for the inhabitants on all public days. Another ferry was afterwards established a mile farther down the river. The town officers at the time of the incorporation in 1712 were: Joseph Deane, town clerk; selectmen; Colonel Ebenezer Pitts, Edward Paull, James Tisdale; constables: John Burt and David Walker; assessors: Samuel Waldron, Daniel Axtel and Abraham Shaw; town treasurer, Ensign John Crane; tithingmen: Isaac Hathaway and John Wood; surveyors: Abraham Hathaway and

John Wood; fence viewers: Thomas Burt and Isaac Pool; field-drivers: John White and Richard Wood; flax-culler, Joseph Maxfield.

During the 1812 War the north part of this town seceded from the south part, the former becoming incorporated June 8, 1814, as the town of Wellington. It is stated by various writers that the cause of the separation had to do both with the ministry and meetinghouses, as well as with politics and disappointed politicians. But after about a dozen years of separation the town was reunited to Dighton, February 22, 1826. Dighton was made a port of entry in 1789, and the house still standing on Pleasant street was used as the Custom House to 1834, when the headquarters was removed to Fall River. The following were the collectors of customs: Hodijah Baylies, 1789-1809; Nathaniel Williams, 1809-23; Hercules Cushman, 1823-25; Seth Williams, 1825-29; Dr. William Wood, 1829-33; Dr. P. W. Leland 1834. Dwight F. Lane has been town clerk and treasurer since 1897. Howard C. Briggs is town auditor.

**Schools and Churches.**—The first record that relates to the proposed support of a school in the town is dated 1733, when at town meeting of March 20, Edward Shove was appointed to present a petition to the General Court relating thereto. The next year it was voted to hire a schoolmaster to teach children to read, write and cipher. In 1751 three schoolhouses were built, two of them sixteen feet square and one twenty feet square, one located near Jonathan Burt's house, one near Colonel Richmond's, another near Robert Vickery's. And then, in 1755, the first schoolmaster, John Richmond, is referred to. There were these school buildings in the town in 1923, namely: the North Grammar building, North Primary building, South Grammar building, Brick school, Broad Cove school, Fish school, Flat Rock school, Segreganset school, Williams school, with a total of 538 pupils. The appropriation for the maintenance of the schools, as made in 1923 was \$38,000. Pupils attending high school in Taunton, forty; in Fall River, ten. School superintendents since 1912 have been: John C. Davis, 1912; Mortimer H. Bowman, 1912-21; Walter K. Putney, 1921-23; Norman T. Bond, 1923. The school board in 1923: Chairman, Roy F. Walker; financial secretary, Frank B. Place; corresponding secretary, Samuel C. Hamilton; Ralph Earle, Henry W. Horton, Trevor F. Goodell.

Four years before Dighton was incorporated as a town, the First Congregational Society was established in 1708, and Rev. Nathaniel Fisher was chosen the minister, his pastorate starting in 1710, and extending through two-thirds of the century to 1777, in which year he died at the age of ninety-one years. Mr. Fisher was a graduate of Harvard College, and his one pastorate was at Dighton, he being ordained here. His church, the first to be erected in Dighton, was at the town cemetery, near the residence of Hon. Charles S. Chase, and was built in 1708. The structure was burned in 1767, the fire being of incendiary origin. Soon afterwards a meetinghouse was built on Buck plain, fifty-five feet long by forty-five feet wide, the sum of £500 being appropriated therefor. The Brick Church, so-called, was built in 1826, and it was dedicated May 1, 1827. Rev. John Smith who had been assisting Mr. Fisher, became minister of the church in 1777, and he remained until 1800. He was a graduate of Princeton College. One of his grandsons was Professor W. B. Smith, of Union Theo-



logical Seminary. Rev. William Warren, a Dartmouth College graduate, was his successor, his ordination taking place in 1802. He was dismissed in 1815, and up to 1826, when Rev. William Torrey preached here for a year, there was no regular pastor. The ministers in succession since then have been: Revs. Preston Cummings, Jonathan King, John Shaw, Joseph Bailey, Malachi Ballard, E. R. Claggitt, William Walker, George Brown, E. Newhall, Ezra Newton, Enoch Sanford, Horace Pratt, Ebenezer Dawes, Edson J. Moore, William B. Green, Nathan T. Dyer, Calvin T. Keyser, Frank E. Mills, Granville Yager, Dorrall Lee, F. J. Noyes, Robert Humphrey, John P. Richardson, William F. Warren, Hollis A. Campbell.

The organization of the Second Congregational Society was brought to pass in this way: the residents of the east and south sections of the town were dissatisfied with the location of the new church on Buck Plain, and they withdrew and built a church of their own on Elm street, on the location of the present building of the Unitarian church. This house was raised and boarded, but its finishing was postponed with the coming of the Revolutionary War, and thus, without windows or doors, the structure was for some time used as a sheep-pen by Captain Rufus Whitmarsh, owner of the farm adjoining. The work of completion of the edifice was put off until 1797, and that year two tracts of woodland were given for a ministerial fund for the Pedo-Baptist Congregational Society, as the church was then called, the donors being Colonel Sylvester Richmond and Joseph Atwood. With the proceeds of the sale of the timber, the church was completed in 1798.

Rev. John Smith, who was pastor of the First Church, assisted in the establishment of the Second Church by preaching there on alternate Sundays, so continuing until 1800. The first settled minister for the new church was Rev. Abraham Gushee, who came in June, 1803. Ordained September 23, that year, he remained with this church for more than a half century; and when the division took place between the Orthodox and the Unitarians, Mr. Gushee joined the latter. He died October 5, 1861, at the age of eighty-six years, and he was succeeded by Rev. Francis LeBaron, who remained with the society one year. The ministry of this church since that time has been as follows: Revs. Fiske Burrill, J. L. Hatch, George Kelso, F. E. Kittredge, John Wills, William Reeby, Obed Eldredge, Alfred Cross, Mr. Hodges, Miss Leggett, A. J. Rich, Stephen Palmer. The meetinghouse was re-modeled in 1861, at an expense of nearly \$2,000. Memorial Hall was built in 1889, and presented to this society by the children of Alfred Smith, of Newport, as a memorial to their mother; and the house standing on the same lot with the hall was presented to the society, for a parsonage. Bequests by a daughter of Mrs. Smith and by Cyrus Talbot, bring the total of invested funds held by the society to nearly \$75,000.

The Baptist Church was organized in the west part of Dighton in 1772, as the result of a religious revival. Elder Enoch Goff was chosen the first pastor, and in 1781 David Simmons was ordained as his colleague. The meetinghouse, near the site of the Rehoboth line, was completed in 1780, and it was dedicated on the "dark day," May 19, 1780. A larger house was built in 1796, a mile to the north of the old one, and

although it is not now in possession of the original owners, it has ever since been known as the Elder Goff meetinghouse. Elder Ephraim Sawyer was called to the pastorate in 1806, who preached until 1810, in which year Elder Goff died. From 1807 to 1813, 262 members were added to this church. Rev. Silas Hall succeeded Elder Sawyer for a year, and from 1813 to 1840 the following-named were the pastors: Revs. Bartlett Pease, Mr. Lovejoy, Caleb Green, John Reed, J. L. Whitmore. In 1845 this church built a meetinghouse at the Four Corners, at a cost of \$1,600, and from that time onwards, the following-named have been the pastors: Revs. John B. Parris, Caleb Blood, Charles F. Colver, Alexander Carr, Samuel Carr, James Andern, Edwin Stillman, S. A. Thomas, L. Kinney, Mr. Latham, Mr. Horton, J. C. Boomer, A. W. Carr, Albert N. Dary, R. G. Johnson, William D. Athearn, Fred A. Robinson, O. H. Wallace, Robert Bennett, Walter Bartlett, E. F. Chandler, Thomas G. Denchfield.

The Christian Church of West Dighton is the outcome of a division that was made with the Baptists in 1840, with Rev. Otis W. Bates as the pastor. The pulpit is occasionally occupied by ministers and students.

As early as 1814, attention was first called to Methodism in Dighton, when Israel Anthony, a mill overseer, secured preachers to hold meetings in the village. The first Methodist class was formed here in 1816, with Rev. Orville Hinds as the leader; there were twenty-six members in this class. In 1830, Rev. John D. Baldwin was first regularly appointed to the pastorate, the church being dedicated July 13, 1831, by Rev. Lewis B. Bates. North Dighton was made an independent charge in 1837, with Rev. John Bayley as pastor, and ten years afterwards, in 1847, the parsonage was built. The present church edifice was completed in 1866, and dedicated October 14, that year. Following is the list of pastors: Revs. John Bayley, David Culver, Ephraim Capen, Bryan Morse, George H. Winchester, Charles A. Carter, Edward A. Lyon, Abel Gardner, Richard Donkersley, William Cone, Franklin Gavitt, W. H. Richardson, Asa N. Bodfish, Lawton Cady, Carlos Banning, Nathaniel Bemis, O. N. Brooks, Henry H. Smith, John N. Collier, L. B. Bates, Erastus Beaton, Asa N. Bodfish, T. Snowden Thomas, W. H. Stetson, Edwin F. Jones, George W. Ballou, George H. Bates, J. W. Malcolm, George W. Wright, George H. Lamson, George H. Bates, Frank S. Parkin, C. F. Brightman, W. E. Kugler, C. H. Ewer, George A. Sisson, H. H. Critchlow, John S. Bridgford, Mortimer Braley, J. B. Aldrich, A. S. Muirhead, A. W. C. Anderson, W. E. Plaxton, Norman McKay, Edwin J. Reese, John McVay. A new church was built in 1900, and dedicated May 14, 1902.

The Second M. E. Church was formally organized May 13, 1866. In 1893 the old church was sold, and the purchaser removed it. The present structure was erected in its place, and it was dedicated December 14, 1893. The pastors: Revs. James A. Dean, H. H. Smith, A. E. Hall, V. W. Maltoon, Dennison Brown, John Lindsey, L. F. Causey, S. E. Evans, F. D. Sargent, Thomas Simms, C. A. Littlefield, John Thompson, Silas Sprowl, John H. Buckey, William D. Wilkinson, C. F. Hatch, Robert Clark, Charles B. Allen, E. S. Collier, Jerome Greer, Charles A. Purdy, E. W. Goodier, John Pierce, O. B. Morris, James Biram, C. J. Oleson, John L. Cole, L. D. Spaugy, W. E. Handy.



A Universalist society was formed in South Dighton about the year 1840, the church being built on Main street where the Methodist church now stands. After awhile this society went out of existence, its ministers having been Revs. Hewitt, Hodston, Chamberlain and Arnold. Their chapel when it was sold, was converted into an academy, known as Dighton Academy, which building was sold in 1866 to the Methodist people.

The first services of St. Joseph's Catholic Church were held on Easter Sunday in 1887, as a mission of Sacred Heart Church at Weir Village. Rev. Father McDonough purchased a schoolhouse and converted it into a church for the use of the Catholic people of North Dighton. St. Peter's Catholic Church was established in 1902 as a mission of the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, at Weir Village. The church was founded here by Rev. Father Smith for the benefit of the Portuguese population in this town.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church was organized at Pilgrim Hall, in this town, March 8, 1914, the first services being held on Easter Day that year. The building formerly occupied by the Christian Church of North Dighton and built by that society in 1831, was secured for the Episcopal church and consecrated as St. Paul's Church. Rev. Walter E. Tourtellot has had charge of the services there the past four years.

The Dighton Union Band that began to hold meetings as early as 1773, brought about the organization of the Christian Union Church of North Dighton in 1831. The society retained its corporate existence many years.

**In the Wars.**—The townsmen elected to carry into execution the resolves of the Continental Congress in 1775 were Sylvester Richmond (3rd), Rufus Whitmarsh, Peter Pitts, Joseph Gooding, Dr. William Baylies, Abiezer Phillips, George Coddington, David Walker, Samuel Phillips, William Gooding, James Dean, John Richmond, John Simmons. Town meetings were held every few weeks for the enlisting of soldiers and raising money for the war. On March 1, 1781, the town issued an emancipation proclamation so far as the negroes serving in the army were concerned, when seven black men were declared freemen because of their service in the army.

In the Civil War there were ninety-five men who served in the army from Dighton, and nine in the navy—a total of 104. There were 172 in the World War from this town.

**Industries.**—The following history of the Mount Hope Finishing Company and its great plant, also contains much of value along other lines in local history. It is written by one who is prominent in the industrial world in this section, and who has spent years in gathering the materials for the article which appears herewith.

Not long after 1800 we find a cotton factory called Wheeler's Factory established on the Three Mile river at what was then known as Dighton Upper Four Corners, now the location of the Lincoln Paper Mill. The building was a small one, that had previously been used in connection with the Iron Works owned and operated by the Stephens family. They continued to retain an interest in the cotton factory. Whether Nathaniel Wheeler or his brother Russell was the manager cannot be stated definitely.

July 9, 1810, Thomas S. Baylies, after reserving to himself and his heirs one-sixteenth part, deeded to a list of individuals from Bristol, Providence

and Boston two pieces of land in Dighton, one containing 17 acres, on which stood the dam and warehouse and later the mill and cluster of houses lining Mt. Hope lane; also a piece containing 18 acres lying north of the first named lot on the road to Westville reaching up to the Taunton line and from the river to the road. The price paid was \$3,468.75. Access to the location for the mill was then only through Mount Hope lane. It was not until considerably later that a continuation of Spring street was built westerly from Pearl street to Walker street. Conspicuous among the names of the purchasers are those of William and George D'Wolf, of Bristol, whose interests combined represented one-half the property.

Nathaniel Wheeler looked on North Dighton as the most desirable place for him to locate. Just when Mr. Wheeler set up his home in Dighton does not appear but the records show a son born to him there in 1811, and when his connection with the Bristol Cotton Manufacturing Company began is not now apparent. He was not one of the original incorporators, but his name does appear as treasurer of the company in 1820. In 1818 we find him building a brick mansion, the structure now occupied by the Mount Hope Hospital. He, also, owned the farm of nearly 100 acres that we now know as the Mordecai Lincoln farm. He was a director of the Taunton National Bank, selectman of the town of Wellington, when it was set apart from Dighton, twice elected to the Massachusetts Legislature. Possibly, his brother, Russell Wheeler, was the executive in charge of manufacturing operations in North Dighton. His name appears as agent for the Dighton Manufacturing Company. It seems plain that his contact with the cotton factory was that of the prompter, trader and merchant, not as mill superintendent. In 1820 all the property of the Bristol Cotton Manufacturing Company was transferred by deed to James D'Wolf of Bristol. Then follows the incorporation in 1821 of the same property under the name of the Mount Hope Manufacturing Company. Mr. D'Wolf owned Mt. Hope at Bristol and it was, no doubt, out of compliment to him that the Mt. Hope name was given to the new corporation. In addition to Mr. D'Wolf and Mr. Wheeler, the other incorporators are Freeborn Sisson, James Maxwell, John T. Child, Oliver Chase and Levi D'Wolf.

In 1827 Russell Wheeler died, and in 1829 reverses overtook Nathaniel Wheeler, and he made an assignment to four trustees for the benefit of his creditors. Mr. Wheeler moved with his family to Essex county, New York, where he prospered moderately in the iron business. In the spring of 1838 with his two sons he began farming, but returned in 1845 to Fall River where he died in 1854. North Dighton had lost the man who made the community. The village with its two cotton factories, a machine shop, a foundry, saw mill, grist mill and two stores was a lively place of business for those days. Mr. Wheeler's stock in the Dighton Manufacturing Company was sold to Job Eddy of New Bedford. Mr. Eddy became actively connected with the management of the business. Following the death of Mr. D'Wolf in 1838, the property of the Mount Hope Manufacturing Company was sold for \$8,500 to Theophilus, Azariah and Jervis Shove. From then on the management and ownership of the two cotton mills was entirely distinct from each other. Azariah and Jervis Shove lived



at the old Baylies homestead. They came from Fall River where they had been engaged at what was known as the Nankeen Mill, one of the earliest mills to use power looms. Naturally, they installed looms at Mt. Hope and curiously enough they chose the attic of the old mill for the location. In the list of industrial pioneers in this section are the names of Dexter, Russell and Nathaniel Wheeler. Russell and Nathaniel Wheeler were brothers and were born in 1772 and 1781, sons of Lieutenant Jeremiah Wheeler, of what is now Seekonk. Dexter Wheeler, their nephew, was born in 1777, the oldest child of their elder brother, Jeremiah Wheeler. Dexter and Nathaniel Wheeler as boys were both associated with the Wilkinsons of Pawtucket. After a start with cotton machinery they drifted off to New York State and interested themselves in the improvement of farming machinery. In 1806 Dexter Wheeler and Nathaniel Wheeler with others were engaged in the erection of a mill at Swansea of some 200 or 300 spindles capacity. In 1809 Nathaniel Wheeler then a resident of Swansea in connection with Daniel Gilbert, of Mansfield, Josiah Dean, of Raynham, Nathaniel Williams of Dighton, Seabrey Lawton of Rehoboth, Nicholas Stephens of Dighton, Oliver Chase and Hezekiah Anthony of Swansea and James Maxwell of Warren, R. I., made an agreement to organize a company to be known as the Dighton Manufacturing Company, to enter into the manufacture of cotton and erect a mill or mills for that purpose. Land along the Three Mile river, including two lower mill privileges, was purchased. Capital stock of sixty shares was to be issued. No charter was obtained, however, until 1822, at which time also appears the first entry in the corporation's record book. It was at this time, also, that James D'Wolf of Bristol acquired thirty-six shares of the stock of the company. In April, 1812, Dexter Wheeler with his cousin, David Anthony, who had previously been in the employ of Samuel Slater of Pawtucket, settled upon the village of Troy, now the city of Fall River, as the most advantageous spot for their future operations. In 1813 we find their names as the principal incorporators of the Fall River Manufactory. The same year the name of Nathaniel Wheeler appears as one of the incorporators of the Troy Cotton & Woolen Manufactory, and in 1821 he was one of the subscribers in the incorporation of the Pocasset Manufacturing Company.

In 1875 the Mt. Hope property was purchased by Stafford & Company. The record shows an assignment in 1884 for the benefit of their creditors. William Mason, who was one of the firm of Stafford & Company, acquired the property in 1885. The mill was operated by him and after his death by his widow as the William Mason Manufacturing Company until 1895, when a mortgage was again foreclosed and the property changed hands. The mill was then operated for a short time as the North Dighton Cotton Co. When the New England Cotton Yarn Company was organized in 1898, it was among the properties included in the consolidation. The New England Cotton Yarn Company did not care to operate the mill. They stripped it of all its machinery, even the engine was removed from the foundation. Two old boilers and the water wheels were the only equipment left. The chairman of the executive committee of the New England Cotton Yarn Company, soon after its organization, was Joseph F. Knowles of New Bedford. He was also treasurer of the Acushnet Mill and the Hatha-

way Manufacturing Company; and among other industrial enterprises with which Mr. Knowles was associated, was the Dunnell Manufacturing Company in Pawtucket, a bleachery, dye house and print works. The plant of the Dunnell company was destroyed by fire in 1888. In the rebuilding new capital was required, and considerable of this new issue was subscribed by New Bedford investors, Mr. Knowles being president of the corporation. He continued in this office until the Dunnell company was combined with other plants in 1899 to make the United States Finishing Company.

It was finally decided to incorporate a new company to purchase and operate the property as a bleachery, dye house and finishing works. The Mount Hope name was still associated with the property, so it was continued for the new company. Stock was subscribed to the amount of \$125,000 by Mr. Knowles and a few of his business associates. Plans were made with the assistance of E. A. Rusden and C. R. Makepeace & Company of Providence, Rhode Island. June 1, 1901, the new company was formally organized with Joseph F. Knowles, president; Joseph K. Milliken, treasurer; and William W. Crapo and Thomas S. Hathaway, directors. Mr. Knowles continued president until his death in 1909. He was succeeded by Mr. Crapo, who pays the company a great compliment by serving as its president. Joseph F. Knowles, Jr., was elected to fill the vacancy in the board. June 25th, ground was broken for a small brick building to house the grey room, singe room, kiers, bleach house, drying cans and dyehouse. Work was also started to repair and make ready the old mill for the reception of tenter frames, some dry cans, one calender, a range for dyeing aniline black and the necessary making-up machinery. A Corliss engine was installed on the old foundation. One new boiler was added to the two old ones. The old mill chimney was repaired and put into use. Water, steam and sprinkler pipes were installed. An elevated tank was erected to provide water for fire protection. The estimates anticipated the employment of about 75 people and a product of 150,000 to 200,000 yards per week. Experienced help for bleacheries and finishing plants included many Englishmen, who gained their acquaintance with the bleaching, dyeing and finishing of cotton fabrics before they left England.

The new company was successful in obtaining the services of many of these Britishers, who brought with them a great faith in the Rochdale Plan of Co-operative Store Keeping. Quite naturally, therefore, one of the first undertakings for public betterment took the form of a co-operative grocery store. The North Dighton Co-operative Association encountered many difficulties in the beginning. It has now, however, long justified the faith of its founders. It is doing a business of about \$50,000 per year, returning to its shareholders regular dividends of nine per cent on their purchases and occasional extra dividends. From a small beginning macadam roads have been built in North Dighton, much of the construction entirely at the expense of the company, some paid for jointly by the town and company. When the Mount Hope Finishing Company was started, motive power was supplied by an engine aided by two old water wheels; where variable speed drives were necessary, small engines carrying steam the full length of the stroke were installed connected direct to the engine by belt or gears. The only electrical equipment at the beginning was that necessary for lighting



the mill building. No gas for singeing was available. It was necessary to make an installation for generating gas from gasoline. Later, when the pipe lines of the Taunton Gas Company were carried into Dighton, the manufacture of gas was abandoned and the public supply was happily, also, available for lighting houses in the village. It was early found desirable to do away with the many small engines scattered through the plant, and substitute motors. As the electric generating plant was increased, it became possible, also, to provide the energy for street lights. A lighting district was organized, street lights were installed, and the expense was assessed directly on the district benefited. For many years the absence of a public water supply was a serious handicap. Wells were continually running dry or getting polluted. As the community became more thickly settled, the need for a proper water supply grew more imperative. After many tedious preliminaries, a contract was arranged with the city of Taunton to deliver to the company water from its pipes at the Taunton-Dighton line. The company made the installation of pipes in the streets, the hydrants and the house connections, and water was sold by it to the people at the same rate as in Taunton. The old home of Nathaniel Wheeler was converted into a hospital to take care of the accident and maternity cases in the village. As the building of plant and village increased, there was a continuing demand for crushed stone for new construction. Stone walls and field stone, which constitute the most conspicuous item in the natural resources of the town of Dighton, have passed in a steady stream through the company's stone crusher and into service as foundations, new roads and reinforced concrete buildings. Cleared of its stone, the nearby land, though of light, poor soil, can be made to raise good crops. Today there are many acres under cultivation and the company conducts a milk and poultry farm, raises potatoes, corn and garden truck, harvests ice for the domestic needs of the village and takes pride in maintaining its farm property and live stock in the best of condition. Coal for domestic purposes is purchased by the company and sold to employees practically at cost. A restaurant is maintained to supply meals for workers. A moving picture machine is operated evenings.

A club house with bowling alleys, billiard tables, locker room, shower baths, a ball field and tennis courts was built by the company for the use of its employees. Many new houses have been erected, mostly single houses of the bungalow and cottage types. An effort has been made to keep the village attractive by planting trees and shrubs and laying out small parks. Ample breathing spaces between houses have been provided and a variety of types of construction have been employed to avoid the dull monotony of many older mill villages. The company was fortunate from the start in preparing for the finishing of lines of cloth, which have steadily increased in popularity and consumption. The mercerizing of cotton was a new process at the time Mount Hope was organized. The prices that could be obtained for mercerized goods were attractive and the company early began to specialize in the finishing of mercerized cottons. From time to time as other new lines of goods with an appeal to popular favor appeared in the market, the management has sought to be prepared promptly to finish them. Today the company is able to finish a great range of cloths

in white, black and colors in cotton and in silk. With the increase in variety has come an increase in the quantity of goods finished. The product is now more than ten times as great as was originally expected. The type of mill construction, commonly in use, has undergone a considerable change in the last twenty years. This plant, built almost continuously a little at a time, reflects these changes. From the brick building with small bays and little windows, wood posts with plank floors and plank roof, the first change was to a reinforced concrete building with larger bays, bigger windows and floors and roofs of concrete. Later this type of construction was found to have its disadvantages, and the change has lately come to single story buildings with steel trussed roof construction admitting of large bays lighted by monitors and saw teeth. While the type of machinery used has changed little in twenty years, methods of generating steam have made great progress and methods of generating electricity and applying the energy at the machines have also been greatly improved. To these matters much thought has been given and care taken to keep the boiler plant, the engines and the electrical equipment at the peak of efficiency.

**Other Industries.**—Thomas Coram stands out as one of the most prominent figures in the early story of Dighton. He was foremost in the settlement of Halifax, Nova Scotia, as well as in the founding of colonies in Georgia, and in the establishment of a children's home in London that has since become famous. Backed by a company of London merchants and bringing over to his aid skilled workmen from abroad, he took into his partnership in 1693 a Dighton man, John Hathaway, and gave impetus to an industry that was to continue in Dighton, though in other hands and at other shipyards, for a period of 125 years. The Coram and Hathaway shipyard was established at the foot of Main street, and this was the first industry in the South Purchase, the business continuing for ten years. Ebenezer Stetson started his shipyard in 1750 where the George Phillips boatyard was in recent years, and he retired from business in 1768. John Reed established a shipyard in 1755 in Muddy Cove, and continued to 1772. After the Revolution, Bowen and Hathaway started building ships on the south side of Whitmarsh's wharf; and later, Smith and Wardwell had a shipyard on the north side of that wharf. David Standish had a shipyard before 1800, north of the Dighton and Berkley bridge, and in the early part of that century Matthew Briggs built vessels on Pine Hill. During the prevalence of the Embargo Act and while the War of 1812 was on, the shipbuilding industry was brought to a halt here, but after the war, business started. Colonel Darius Perry had a shipyard near the Eddy house at this time. But with the launching of the barkentine "William Cobb," in 1874, the business that had lasted about two hundred years was brought to a close.

As early as 1700, iron was manufactured here, when Peter Walker built his furnace on the island in Three Mile river. The business came into the hands of the Dighton Manufacturing Company after it had been carried on by the Walker family about a century. Matthew Briggs, shortly after 1700, started a forge and grist mill on Segreganset river. Grist, saw and other mills were started throughout the 18th century by Nicholas Stevens, Simeon Williams and Isaac Babbitt.



Isaac Babbitt and others organized and incorporated the Wellington Cotton Company in 1814, with capital stock of \$90,000. After some years this mill, located east of Williams street, was leased by various parties, and in 1845 it was burned while David Westcoat was running it. Other milling interests of the town have been the following: Joshua T. Williams' lap mill of 1840, on the west side of Williams street; Simeon Williams' saw mill; J. T. W. Reed's saw and grist mill; Captain David Perry's stone machine shop, built in 1822, later operated as a tack shop by Oliver Eaton and John P. Wade, still later by the Tack Combination; a flaxseed oil mill on the Segreganset; the Nathaniel Leonard & Son tack factory of 1845; the Simmons grist mill farther down the river.

The site of the plant of the Anchor Color and Gum Works was formerly that of a cashmere mill of New York capitalists, built of brick and finished in 1862. The plant was destroyed by fire, after which Captain William Cobb rebuilt the mill and manufactured furniture. Later, the Albion Lead Company of Taunton purchased the property and pursued their business. Again the works burned, and a company formed by John C. Jessup bought the plant, who changed it to a color works. Then Mason, Chapin Company, of Providence, Rhode Island, purchased and manufactured water colors. Arnold, Hoffman Company of Providence, Rhode Island, purchased the plant in 1900. In July, 1906, the works were again partially burned, but were rebuilt. The company manufactures water colors, soap and corn starch products.

One of the best-known paper manufacturing plants in New England is that of L. Lincoln and Company at North Dighton. Caleb and Lorenzo Lincoln established the firm in 1850 as C. M. and L. Lincoln. At the death of Caleb M., the firm name was changed to L. Lincoln and Company, with Lorenzo Lincoln as senior member, and Edward and James M. Lincoln as the junior members. E. Ellsworth, Nathaniel R. and Charles E. Lincoln were admitted as partners on the death of Lorenzo Lincoln. The plant was twice destroyed by fire but was promptly rebuilt.

The Dighton Stove Lining Company's plant is located on an old industrial site, and was started in 1874 by Gideon C. Francis, G. Henry Horton, Stephen H. Pierce and John Hines for the manufacture of stove linings. In 1877, Joseph B. Warner was admitted as a partner. They with others incorporated as the Dighton Stove Lining Company. Alfred W. Paul was chosen president; William Z. Whitmarsh as treasurer and clerk.

An industry that once flourished here was that of clock-making, begun by Joseph Gooding fourth in descent from George Gooding, first of the name in Dighton. Five brothers of the name averaged over half a century in the clock-making industry. The Groveland Foundry Company was organized in 1882 to manufacture stoves, the plant continuing some years under different managers and owners. Finally the Century Stove Company bought the business and operated the plant until it was destroyed by fire in January, 1900. The Crossman Tack Company was established in 1908 by W. W. Crossman in Lakeville, who removed to Dighton in 1910. Hamilton Brothers manufacture tin capped lining, and saddlery nails.

Strawberry culture was introduced into Dighton soon after 1860, among

the first in the industry being Daniel Chace, his son, Hon. Charles S. Chace and Dexter Pierce. Their farms and others' brought a large amount of money into Dighton during a period of a half century. The Dighton Building Association built their canning factory here in 1890, and a number of others have followed. The Dighton Nursery Company was established in 1845 by Dr. Alfred Wood. He retired in 1862, and successive owners have been: John A. Lewis, Edward P. and Charles Lewis and Josiah S. Place.

**Miscellaneous.**—The beginnings of the Dighton Public Library are to be found in a magazine club that was formed by Segreganset residents in 1890, who through the proceeds of entertainments placed books for distribution in the Segreganset postoffice. The library of about 400 volumes thus started was placed in Town Hall in 1895, when Hon. Charles S. Chace secured a gift of one hundred dollars worth of books from the State, with the condition that the town provide a suitable place for them. In 1895 Dwight F. Lane, Rev. William D. Athearn and Edward Lincoln were elected library trustees, with Mr. Lane as secretary and treasurer. Up to the year 1911, the library headquarters were in Town Hall, and that year the present Carnegie library building was built at a cost of \$6,000, the site being paid for by subscription. The new library was dedicated August 3, 1911, and was opened to the public August 4, with about 3,200 volumes. The present librarian is Lydia J. Cole. The board of trustees: Ellsworth E. Lincoln, chairman; Dwight F. Lane, Philip K. Bowden.

Dighton Rock Grange was instituted December 5, 1912, with seventy charter members. The masters of the Grange to date have been: Hiram O. Palmer, Joseph Howland, Trevor F. Goodell, George H. Phillips, C. Thacher Pardey, Leland F. Bullard. The membership in 1923 was 192.

The Brick Social Club originated in 1913 to hold annual clambakes at the Brick Church extension. The officers are: President, Charles Richards; secretary, George H. Walker; treasurer, William W. Hamilton.

---

## CHAPTER V.

### EASTON

By Edward S. Hayward, C. E.

The town of Easton, situated in the northeast corner of Bristol county, is bounded on the north by Stoughton and Sharon, on the east by Brockton and West Bridgewater, on the south by Taunton, Raynham and Norton, on the west by Norton and Mansfield. It derived its name from its location with reference to the town of Norton, of which it originally formed a part; it was the east precinct of that town, and became the East Town, or Easton. Its area is twenty-nine square miles, or 18,584 acres, of which 370 acres are water. There are several ponds artificially made in former years for manufacturing purposes. The largest streams are Leach's stream, once called Mulberry Meadow brook, in the west part, and Queset river in



the north and east parts, and on which are located the Ames Shovel works, the Easton Machine Company, Ross Heel Company and Grist Mill at South Easton. Black brook flowing from the center of the town also is a stream of considerable size and drains an area of large extent.

Easton is on the Old Colony division of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad, Easton Center being  $24\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Boston, 12 from Taunton and about 20 miles from the nearest seashore. It has two stations on the main line, one at North Easton and one at Easton Center. A branch road leaves the main line at Easton Center and runs to Brockton through West Bridgewater, with stations at South Easton and Eastondale. The Eastern Massachusetts street railway operates a trolley line from North Easton to Brockton, and the same company operates the Taunton-Brockton line which passes through South Easton and Eastondale. There are four postoffices in the town, one at North Easton, one at South Easton, one at Eastondale, and one at the Furnace Village (Easton postoffice).

The village of North Easton presents many points of special interest and attraction. There are several costly and beautiful estates, among which may be mentioned those of Oliver Ames, Mary Ames Frothingham, John S. Ames, Mrs. F. Lothrop Ames and Mrs. William H. Ames. The estate of Oakes Ames in the northwest section of the town comprising about 1,500 acres of forest and interval is another very attractive homestead. The public buildings are nearly all gifts to the town from members of the Ames family. Unity Church is a beautiful stone edifice, Gothic in style, cruciform in shape, with a solid stone spire surmounted by a stone cross. The Public Library building is an attractive edifice, built of native stone, a pinkish granite called sienite, with brown sand stone trimmings. Over ten thousand books were provided, and the library opened to the public March 10, 1883. The librarians have been Charles R. Ballard, 1883, and Mary Lamprey. The library was founded by a bequest of Hon. Oliver Ames. Near the library building is the massive and handsome public hall built as a memorial to Oakes Ames by his children. It stands on a natural ledge, from the northeast corner of which rises the tower. It has in front an arcade with heavy pillars and arches, and is approached by wide stone staircases terminating on stone platforms, and so combined with the natural stonework as to present an imposing appearance. In this building on the first floor are two small halls, a large hall on the second floor, and a beautifully decorated and furnished Masonic Hall in the third story. H. H. Richardson was the architect of this hall and of the library. In front of the hall is a triangular piece of ground upon which the Ames Corporation built from design of Frederick Law Olmstead an extensive cairn or rock work 250 feet long and 25 feet high at the eastern end, with an archway and steps passing underneath.

In 1812 the school house was moved from its former location to a position nearer Barrows street, and on the old site a new modern high school building was erected. On the 12th of December, 1896, the Oliver Ames High School building was dedicated—a splendid monument to the generosity and public spirit of the giver—ex-Governor Ames. In 1914 a new brick grammar school was erected on the Cogswell lot on the south side of Main street. This building is modern in structure and equipment,

and adds another to the long list of public buildings which Easton is fortunate to possess. This school house was given to the town by F. Lothrop Ames, Mary Ames Frothingham and John S. Ames, in memory of their father and mother, Frederick L. Ames and Rebecca C. Ames.

Another of the attractive buildings of this village is the depot, a gift to the Old Colony railroad by Frederick L. Ames. On the site of the old Unitarian Church at Easton Center is the Town Hall, built by the town, and in the square nearly in front of the hall stands the Soldiers' Monument, erected in 1882, upon which are inscribed the names of forty-seven townsmen who were killed in the Civil War. There are now three banks in North Easton—the first National Bank of Easton, George C. Barrows, cashier; the North Easton Savings Bank, John M. Williams, treasurer; and the North Easton Coöperative Bank, of which Lorenzo B. Crocket is president and William H. Clements, treasurer.

The town has its proportion of social and other organizations, such as Paul Dean Lodge of Masons; the Order of the Eastern Star; A. B. Randall Post, No. 52, G. A. R., Nathaniel W. Slocumb, commander; the Odd Fellows; the Knights of Columbus. The ladies also have their social organizations—the Clover Club, located at North Easton; the Outlook Club, at Easton; the Furnace and the Browning Club at South Easton.

The town is divided into three precincts. Precinct 1 includes the west part of the town as far north as Summer and Rockland streets and east to the railroad. Precinct 2 takes the North Easton Village District and Unionville, and Precinct 3 the east section of town, embracing South Easton and Eastondale. There are also three districts within the town—the North Easton Village district with water works, street lighting system, police protection and other municipal advantages; the Unionville Fire and Water district, which recently installed pipes for water which they obtain from North Easton. The South Easton and Eastondale Fire and Water District was incorporated in 1915 and has a complete water system, obtaining its supply from Silver Lake through the courtesy of the city of Brockton.

The town of Easton was incorporated December 21, 1725. It was previously a part of the town of Norton, which was incorporated in 1711, and of which in 1718 it was made the East Precinct, being set apart for the maintenance of a minister. Previous to this time it was a part of a tract of land called Taunton North Purchase. This tract included the whole of what is now Easton, nearly all of Mansfield, and about a third of Norton. When first incorporated Norton included all this tract and considerable more, Easton being the older and Mansfield the younger child of this town. The North Purchase was bought from Plymouth Colony by 53 of the citizens of Taunton. The first town meeting of Easton was held March 2, 1726.

**Industrial.**—The first settlement of this town was made at what is now South Easton Village in 1694. Thomas Randall, Sr., and his son, Thomas, Jr., located here and built on the site of the Dean property a saw mill before 1703 and probably before 1700. A grist mill was built at the same place by Clement Briggs prior to 1713. Clement Briggs, the first settler, was dead as early as June, 1720, and his son Clement sold the grist



mill to Timothy Cooper in February, 1723. The third business enterprise to be positively known is the Leonard forge at the foot of Stones pond; in operation in October, 1723, but it is probable that the Josiah Keith saw mill was built a little earlier than this forge. Mr. Keith settled in Easton on the Bay road, near the Edward Williams place, as early as 1718. It is probable that the mill was built about that time. In December, 1716, Captain James Leonard purchased of Nathaniel Manly 35 acres, and in June, 1720, he made a further purchase of  $8\frac{1}{2}$  acres, both located in North Easton at the place where the Queset river crosses Main street. The exact date of the erection of this forge is not known. It was, however, in full operation before October, 1723, and probably as early as 1720. The ownership passed to Captain Eliphalet Leonard, son of Captain James, and he carried on the works until 1782, when he conveyed it to his son Jacob. In September, 1802, he sold the forge, coal house and grist mill, etc., to Timothy Mitchell and Giles Leach. In 1805 Leach sold out to his partner. Eliphalet Leonard, Jr., had erected a forge before 1771 at the Marshall place on Elm street. There is good authority for the statement that he was the first person to attempt the making of steel in this country. Eliphalet Leonard also manufactured firearms here about the time of the Revolution. There was a forge erected in 1724 at the site of the old Dean saw mill at Cranberry Meadow. It did not pay, and finally passed into the hands of Edward Hayward. The forge was pulled down, and James Dean, a son-in-law of Mr. Hayward, built a hammer shop and carried on blacksmithing until 1750, when Mr. Dean formed a partnership with Matthew Hayward and erected a saw mill which they carried on until 1769, when Jonathan Pratt bought the interest of Hayward and they built a new mill which lasted thirty years, when in 1800 it gave place to another. Late in the last century the property passed into the hands of the late Frederick L. Ames, and the saw mill was torn down. In 1751 John Williams and others began the erection of a furnace at Furnace Village, and it was completed and ready for active business late in 1752. At the time of the Revolution, this furnace was owned by Captain James Perry, who manufactured among other things cannon and cannon balls. It afterwards passed into the hands of General Shepard Leach, by whom a flourishing business was carried on. Large quantities of bog iron ore were dug from the swampy lands in the west part of the town and were used here. This business, carried on later by Lincoln Drake and his sons, Lincoln S. and Abbot L. Drake, was given up and the buildings torn down a few years ago. In 1837 Captain Lincoln Drake established the malleable iron industry at the Furnace Village. In 1849 Daniel Belcher bought it and under the name of the Belcher Malleable Iron Company it was carried on by his son and grandsons until recently when it was sold.

At the Morse privilege on Central street, South Easton, there was at the beginning of the century a saw mill owned by Josiah Copeland. He afterwards with others ran an oil mill. About 1805 the same parties started a factory for the manufacture of cotton yarn and afterwards of cotton cloth. It continued until 1834, when E. J. W. Morse, a native of Dedham, Massachusetts, began the cotton thread business under the name of E. J. W. Morse & Company. This business became successful and continued

until their factory was destroyed by fire and the business was moved to Boston. The factory was later rebuilt and another new modern building erected, and here the Easton Machine Company operate a modern machine shop. At the Dean privilege next below, some kind of active enterprise has been going on since 1703. From about 1713 to the present time the grist mill business has been carried on there. Not much else seems to have been done there until about 1810, when Elijah Howard & Co. started a forge and manufactured bar iron, nail rods, etc. But a disastrous fire, which burned an amount of charcoal worth more than the whole capital invested, brought this enterprise to a close. The same company then began the manufacture of cut nails, a new invention. This continued until about 1823. In 1825 or 1826 Elijah Howard and Captain Bazillai Dean began to make cotton cloth. In 1836 or 1837 Captain Dean bought the entire interest and manufactured cotton print goods of light texture. Captain Dean died by accident in 1848, and the factory was enlarged and made a machine shop. The Ross Heel Company now occupy the factory, which has been greatly enlarged, and in which they manufacture modern heels for slippers.

The privilege below known as the Shoddy Mill privilege was once the site of a saw mill, but soon after 1800 a carding mill was started there. It then was used for a fulling-mill. Subsequently in one building satinet was manufactured and in another, cotton yarn. Asa R. Howard made hoes there at one time. The manufacture of shoe pegs was engaged in, and in 1848 Solomon W. Morse bought the whole privilege and made cotton cloth. It was then purchased by E. J. W. Morse and has since lain idle most of the time. At the Furnace Village on the stream below the Iron Works, in 1854 Keith Rotch & Company were running a thread factory. Pratt, Belcher & Company later carried on the same kind of industry; later a saw mill was operated here by James Belcher, but at the present time the privilege is not in use. In 1844 the first belt saw mill erected in this vicinity was built by Lewis Williams and his son, Edward D. Williams. On Foundry street, in the south part of the town, J. & H. M. Poole in 1828 began the manufacture of mathematical instruments. In 1878, John M. Poole, who had for twenty-five years been foreman, succeeded to the business. He manufactured surveyors' transits, builders' levels, leveling rods and many other instruments of this kind. The business was closed out at the death of Mr. Poole. Charles B. Poole, a brother of John M. Poole, manufactured thermometers for many years at Alger's Corner. At Eastondale, Guilford White in 1850 began the manufacture of shoes, and continued it for six years. For several years afterwards the same business was carried on by Horatio Thayer and Nathaniel R. Packard. Lewis Thayer manufactured shoes here between 1856 and 1870. Irving and Emery Packard also manufactured shoes here.

The great gale of September 8, 1869, leveled to the ground much of the forest in Easton. On the E. R. Hayward farm, many acres of fine pine were blown down. Mr. Hayward immediately started the erection of a steam saw mill at this locality, the only steam saw mill in town, and the largest one in this vicinity. This mill was in operation before the close of the year 1869, and in twelve months thereafter it had sawed out more



than one million three hundred feet of lumber. This mill was destroyed by fire and a new one erected, which was also burned in the spring of 1887.

At South Easton, south of the Green, Samuel Simpson for years carried on the wheelwright business, later conducted by his son, Samuel D. Simpson, and then by his grandson, Charles D. Simpson. Mr. Simpson retired in 1912 and the business is now carried on by George A. Hirtle. At the beginning of the nineteenth century industrial enterprises of some importance were conducted in the northeast part of Easton. Northwest of the present site of the Ames Shovel Works, near what is called the Picker Field, there was a grist mill. There was also a cotton picking machine in operation. Captain John Ames manufactured knives there, and at what is called the "Hoe Shop" Nathan Pratt manufactured hoes. Close to the present location of the Ames office was another grist mill, and still lower down was the cotton factory of the Easton Manufacturing Company. At the lower end of Stone's pond, steel was being manufactured when the century began. Soon a grist mill was added, afterwards there was a nail factory; then William S. Andrews and Elijah Howard began the manufacture of cotton yarn. After awhile they provided looms and made cotton sheeting. Gurden Stone succeeded William G. Andrews in the business, which was carried on until 1837, when Jason G. Howard bought out Mr. Stone. In 1839 nine tack machines were put in and the tack business was begun. Edward J. W. Morse subsequently rented a part of the works and manufactured knitting cotton. In 1852 Mr. Howard sold the place to Oliver Ames, by whom it was used in the manufacture of shovels. Steel and firearms were being made at the Marshall place on Elm street. In 1800 Jonathan Leonard and his father were here. At this place was also a mill for breaking flax. Thomas R. Marshall ran a saw mill here for years. At the lower end of the Shovel Shop pond there was a dam with a grist mill, nailer's shop, and iron forge with trip hammer, etc. This property was purchased by Oliver Ames, the founder of the great shovel business. He had manufactured hoes and shovels here before this time, but had moved to Plymouth. He subsequently returned and began in a small way the establishment of the now world famous Ames Shovel business. Having built a new dam and enlarged the Shovel Shop pond, he renewed at the lower end of this pond the manufacture he had engaged in some years before farther up the stream.

In 1852 the factory at the lower end of Shovel Shop pond proved too small to accommodate the increasing business, and a substantial two-story stone building was erected, 530 feet long. Several other shops were afterwards erected near by, and there are others in different parts of the village where water power is available. Steam power, is, however, the main reliance. Every description of shovel is made—long and short handled, square and round point spades, grain and coal scoops, post hole diggers and other varieties. These are sent not only throughout the United States but to South America, to parts of Asia and Africa, and to Australia. Five hundred men are employed in this shovel business. They manufacture from 110,000 to 125,000 dozens of shovels per year. Taking the average of these figures, 117,500 dozens, we have the incredible number of 1,410,000 shovels per year, 4,519 per day, 451 per hour. From 1,200 to 1,800 tons of

Swedish iron and from 1,200 to 1,400 tons of steel are annually used in this manufacture.

One of the largest business enterprises in town at the present time is the Simpson Spring Company, located at the famous Simpson Spring, near South Easton Green. The business was established in 1878 by Fred A. Howard. The first few years the water was sold locally to people who were acquainted with its purity and medicinal qualities. Three or four years later they began the manufacture of carbonated beverages. The industry has had a steady growth, the yearly sales for 1922 being about \$700,000. The present organization is as follows: Fred Field, president; Edwin H. White, vice-president; Fred L. Howard, treasurer and general manager. Besides a very large trade all over New England, their products are sent as far South as South Carolina, and as far west as Chicago. In addition to their beverages the company refine and pack lime juice, honey, maple syrup and other products. They have recently added a large area to their holdings in order to properly protect the water supply so that the spring now is within a protected area of fifty acres.

A few of the leading business men of the town organized a company and built a large shoe factory on Mechanic street. Various shoe firms have occupied the building since, and have for most of the time carried on the shoe business with success. Reynolds, Drake & Gabell, who formerly manufactured shoes at Marshall's Corner and whose factory was destroyed by fire, now own the building.

**Churches.**—From 1711 to 1725 the territory now embraced in the town of Easton was part of the town of Norton. In 1717 the inhabitants of this territory being in sufficient number, as they judged, to establish a religious society and to support a minister, petitioned the General Court to be set apart as a separate precinct, and on June 5, 1718, what is now the town of Easton was set apart as the East Precinct of the town of Norton. The meeting house was soon built and Rev. Matthew Short was called as the minister of the Church of Christ in the East Precinct. He was born at Newbury March 14, 1688, graduated from Harvard University in 1707, and in November, 1712, was ordained a minister at Attleboro and remained there three years. Subsequently he preached in Saco and Biddeford, Maine and was settled in the East Precinct of Norton about 1723. In December, 1725, this precinct was incorporated as a town with the name of Easton. Work on a new church was begun in 1728, and the structure was finally built near the site of the first church, which was on the east side of Church street, within the cemetery enclosure.

In 1728 a severe epidemic passed over this section. Mr. Short was brought near to death's door, and after his recovery he preached two sermons, which he called "A Thankful Memorial of God's Sparing Mercy". These were published, and a few copies are still in existence. Mr. Short died in Easton, April 16, 1731, in the forty-fourth year of his age. He was succeeded by Rev. Joseph Belcher, who was born in Braintree, August 19, 1704, and graduated from Harvard University in 1723. He was settled here October 6, 1731. Not much is known of him or his life in this town.

The west part of the town had increased in the number of inhabitants, and when it was necessary to build a new place of worship they very



naturally desired that it should be located nearer them. But disagreement was so strong that nothing was done about it until 1749. Meantime the church and parish gave a call to Rev. Solomon Prentice. Mr. Prentice was born at Cambridge, May 11, 1705, and graduated from Harvard College in 1725, in a class in which were Hutchinson and Trumbull, afterwards governors. He was settled in Grafton in 1731 and, on September 14th, he received a call to Easton, and was installed pastor November 18th. The party of the east part of the town, acting under the determined lead of Mr. Prentice, separated from the town parish and formed a new church after the model of Scotch Presbyterianism. They began to build a meeting house, raise the frame, cover it in, but never finished it. Mr. Prentice finally got into trouble with the Presbytery, and was deposed in 1754. His church gradually died out. Mr. Prentice left town in 1755. For several years before, this meeting house at the center had for much of the time been unoccupied. In 1754, while Mr. Prentice was preaching to the Presbyterians on pleasant days in the unfinished Presbyterian meeting house and on stormy days at private houses, George Farrar supplied the regular pulpit. He had been a schoolmaster at Dighton and was just beginning to preach. Mr. Farrar was born in Lincoln (then a part of Concord) Mass., November 23, 1730. He was ordained at Easton, March 26, 1755, though not without a vigorous protest on the part of the Presbyterians. He was a minister of the church for nearly two years, but died at Lincoln, September 17, 1756, at his father's home. A bitter contention went on. Town meetings were disorderly. At one of them the two factions organized, each claiming to be the regular meeting. By petition and counter petition the subject was referred to the General Court; a committee was appointed, and decision was rendered adverse to the party of the east part and favorably for the town party, who were fortunate in having Edward Hayward Esq. as a leader, a man who headed the opposition at all times against Mr. Prentice. Revs. Vesey and Vinal, who perached temporarily during the church difficulties, were without their pay for several years; the school master asked for his wages in vain, and the town meetings gave ample evidence that the town was badly demoralized, a state of things that lasted over thirteen years. In March, 1763, after a day spent in solemn fasting and prayer, a call was given to Rev. Archibald Campbell who was ordained August 17th. Mr. Prentice had carried away his church records (which were, however, recovered some years later), and a new book was begun. A new covenant was drawn up and signed, but it was signed only about one-half the number that had signed the covenant of sixteen years before. Mr. Campbell left Easton in December, 1782, and was called to the church in Charlton in January, 1783, where he remained about ten years, which was his last charge, but he preached temporarily in various places. He died in Stockbridge, Vt., July 15, 1818.

The minister chosen for Mr. Campbell's successor was Rev. William Reed. He was born June 8, 1755. In 1776 he enlisted as a soldier in the Continental army. Two years afterwards he entered Harvard University and graduated in 1782. In August, 1783, he was invited to settle as minister in Easton, and was ordained there April 21, 1784. His ministry in Easton closed only at his death, which occurred November 6, 1809. His estimable wife lived to the age of eighty-three; her death occurred March 26, 1850. Mr.

Reed's successor was Rev. Luther Sheldon. He was born in Rupert, Vermont, February 18, 1785, graduated from Middlebury College in 1808, and was ordained at Easton, October 24, 1810. In 1816 a new meeting house was built, a little way behind where the church stood that was erected in 1750. The old building was moved away and used for a town hall. At the time of Mr. Sheldon's settlement the movement was in progress, which some years later resulted in the division of the old churches of Massachusetts into two parties. In the neighboring town of Norton was a minister, Rev. Pitt Clark, who had been accustomed to exchange with Mr. Reed. He had espoused the so-called liberal ideas, and Mr. Sheldon was unwilling for this reason to exchange with him. This displeased a portion of the Easton congregation, who much admired Mr. Clark, and June 8, 1830, the following action was taken: "Voted, that it is the wish of the Parish that neighboring Congregational ministers in regular standing should minister with this society as was formerly the practice." As this vote had no effect, in November of 1831 the parish formally requested their minister "to exchange pulpit services with neighboring congregational ministers indiscriminately, agreeable to the practice that prevailed at the time of his settlement". A committee was appointed to wait upon Mr. Sheldon, and they reported that he refused to reply to them, and he did not make the exchange as requested. This was now April, 1832. This marked the beginning of dissension and rupture and on November 19, 1838, forty-one members of the parish formally withdrew all connection with it and organized themselves into the "Evangelical Congregational Society of Easton". The old parish became at last distinctly Unitarian. In 1839, Rev. William H. Taylor received and accepted a call, but did not remain long. In 1845 the church was remodeled and rededicated, Rev. Paul Dean having been settled the same year. He continued as pastor for five years, and was succeeded in 1851 by Rev. William Whitwell, who preached here for seven years. Rev. George G. Withington was settled in 1858, and remained pastor for twelve years, resigning in 1870. Mr. Withington was the son of George R. Withington Esq., a lawyer in Bolton, and afterwards in Lancaster, Mass., and was born in Bolton, July 26, 1831. He graduated from the Meadville (Penn.) Theological School in 1854, and for the succeeding year was engaged in the West as a missionary. He was ordained at Hillsboro, Illinois, in 1855, remaining there two years, afterwards settling in Easton. Rev. William Withington was the last settled pastor of the First Parish of Easton. Services were occasionally held during the summer months, Rev. Edward C. Towne, who was living in North Easton, supplying for a while, and later Rev. William Beal of Brockton. On January 27, 1886, the meeting house of the old First Parish of Easton was destroyed by fire. The town subsequently bought the parish lot and erected a town hall upon it. Services were occasionally held at G. A. R. Hall, Eastondale, and in 1904 a new church building was erected at Eastondale and dedicated December 8, 1904. The following ministers have supplied for them since: Manly B. Townsend, December, 1904-September, 1908; William J. Prescott, September, 1908-January, 1910; Dudley H. Ferrell, January, 1910-April, 1918; Herbert L. Buzzell, June, 1918-September, 1919; Rev. Fred L. Lewis, September, 1919, to date.

The nucleus of the Evangelical Society was the majority of the mem-



bers of the original church. This society organized in 1839, but those composing it had been worshipping in the church built by them in 1833. In 1855 Mr. Sheldon relinquished his salary and his active duties, but remained senior pastor until his death, which occurred in 1866. His successor, Rev. Lyman White, was installed October 24, 1855, and dismissed February 19, 1862. Rev. Charles E. Lord was installed June 3, 1863, and resigned June 30, 1865. Rev. Charles L. Mills was acting pastor from December 8, 1865, to February 24, 1868. Rev. D. W. Richardson was acting pastor from October, 1869, to November, 1872, after which Rev. W. B. Augier supplied about five months. Rev. A. S. Hudson was acting pastor from September 1, 1873, to June 14, 1874. Rev. Luther Sheldon, son of the former pastor, acted as pastor from August, 1875, to October 1, 1878; Rev. J. D. Hosmer supplied from October, 1878, to July, 1879, and Rev. L. H. Augier supplied from July 1, 1880, to April 1, 1881. In June, 1881, the church and society gave Rev. W. H. Dowden a call, which he accepted, but was not installed; he supplied the pulpit until November 29, 1884. On the evening of September 6, 1882, the meeting house was destroyed by fire. The society at once commenced rebuilding, but their present house was not completed until late in the fall of 1884. Rev. Franklin P. Chapin commenced his pastorate July 5, 1885, and resigned June, 1890. He was in October followed by Rev. Geo. O. Jenner, who resigned May 1, 1892. Rev. A. H. Fuller was called December 13, 1892, and resigned in 1903. Rev. Philmer A. Sample accepted a call in December, 1903, and resigned 1904. Rev. Wm. Fryling, called February, 1905, resigned in 1911. Rev. T. H. Patterson was called February, 1912, and resigned 1915. Rev. Inor K. Partington was called August, 1915, and resigned September, 1918. Rev. David C. Reid was called January, 1919, and resigned 1922. Rev. Chas. H. Baldwin began his pastorate in January, 1923.

The Methodist movement began in town about 1790. The first society was organized about 1796 in the northeast part of the town. Isaac Stokes, a nailer by trade and a local preacher, was one of its founders, and Jesse Lee and Lorenzo Dow occasionally preached here in those early days. The First Methodist Church was built on Washington street, near the corner of Elm street. In 1830 it was replaced by a new one. This society was first on the Warren circuit, but shortly after 1800 a new circuit was formed including Easton, Stoughton and four other towns. The first regular preacher sent here by the Conference is said to have been Nehemiah Coy. He was followed by Thomas Perry, and afterwards by Samuel Cutler, then in 1810 Rev. John Tinkham was minister; he died in 1824. There were various supplies until 1829, when Lewis Bates, familiarly known as "Father Bates", was appointed for this station. About this time Universalists were occasionally allowed to preach in the new building, which had been liberally subscribed to by several persons who sympathized with Universalist sentiments. This led to serious trouble, and was finally prevented by having the church deeded to the Conference. The revival under Mr. Bates had been followed by a corresponding period of spiritual decline, and in 1840 and 1841 other revivals under Rev. Nathan Payne and Rev. Edward Lyons occurred. About 1843 a portion of the congregation, dissatisfied with the Episcopal form of government, withdrew and formed a Protestant Methodist church. For about ten years previous to 1856 the Washington Street Society had hardly any connection with the Conference, and the church records state

that the church experienced rather turbulent times. During a part of 1855 and 1856 Rev. Luther Sheldon supplied the pulpit, and then the church was closed. In 1857 it was reopened with Rev. John B. Hunt pastor. In 1861, under Rev. L. B. Bates, a division of the society occurred, the minister leading or following those who preferred to have services held in the village. The village society built a church on Main street, and worshiped there until 1876, when they moved into the church formerly occupied by the North Easton Unitarian Society, which had been presented to the Methodists by Hon. Oliver Ames. The two Methodist societies supported separate ministers for a few years, but finally united with one pastor. The Washington Street church was finally torn down and the lot upon which it stood sold, and all united in 1880 in the village church, which is now a strong and flourishing organization. The ministers of the society since Mr. Bates have been as follows, viz: Revs. William V. Momson, Charles Hammond, C. C. Adams, F. A. Loomis, each serving a year; Edward Edson, 1865-67; J. B. Husted, 1867-69; Geo. H. Bates, 1869-72, followed by J. H. Humphrey; Charles W. Dreese, Joseph Hammond, John Faville, John Jones and W. J. Hodges, each serving a year; J. S. Davis, from October, 1878, to April, 1879; S. E. Evans, 1879-80; William Kirkby, 1880-82; J. S. Thomas, 1882-84; Merrill Ransom, 1884-86; Lewis Bates Coddington, 1887-88; Frederick C. Baker, 1889-90; Chas. N. Hinkley, 1891-93; Robert S. Moore, 1894-96; Henry D. Robinson, 1897-1900; P. M. Vinton, 1900-06; W. Senior Hood, 1906-11; Herbert A. Cassidy, 1911-15; E. W. Goodier, 1915-22; E. H. Witman, 1922.

In 1850 the first Catholic chapel was built upon land presented to the church by Oliver Ames and Sons. This was located on the north side of Pond street, on the shore of Shovel Shop pond. It was completed in 1857 under the direction of Father Fitzsimmons, who remained as pastor for about five years. He was followed by Rev. A. F. Roach, and in 1856 by Rev. T. B. McNulty, who was in charge for fourteen years. They were years of rapid increase in the Roman Catholic population. In 1864 Father McNulty bought the lot on Main street and began the erection of the church, which was completed in 1865. In January, 1871, Rev. Francis A. Quinn came as the first parish priest of Easton. He was followed by Rev. Michael Fitzgerald 1873, Rev. Thomas F. Carroll, June, 1873 to 1882; Rev. William J. McComb, 1882. After the death of Father McComb, in North Easton, in December, 1895, Rev. Thomas L. Kelley assumed charge of the parish. After four years he was called to the Church of the Assumption in Providence, R. I. Rev. James H. Looby succeeded Father Kelley in January, 1899. It was due to Father Looby's zeal and untiring efforts that the present church was built. This church seats 700. Father Looby remained here thirteen years, and during his ministry the mortgage on the church was cancelled and the debt wiped out. Rev. Daniel E. Doran was made pastor in October, 1912, and a great many improvements have been made in the church property. The parochial residence has been remodelled, the interior of the church refrescoed, and a large marble altar installed. During the pastorate of Father McNulty the land was bought for the Roman Catholic cemetery, and in 1921 land for a new cemetery was purchased which will double the area of the old one.

The Swedish Evangelical Ebed Melech Church was thus established: The first Swede to settle in Easton was Andrew Erickson, who came here



in 1865. In 1870 there were twelve in town, and in 1880 they numbered one hundred. December 29, 1883, a meeting was held for the organization of a church. The meetings were first held in the old postoffice. January 16, 1884, they bought the Main street meetinghouse once occupied by the Methodist Society, paying \$1450 for it. The church called Rev. Axel Melander as pastor, and he came here to reside September, 1884. He resigned in April, 1886, and was succeeded by Rev. Emil Hohnblad, who remained till 1888. In 1889 Rev. Andrew Johnson came as pastor, and in 1891 resigned and Rev. Emil Hohnblad came back again and remained till 1898. Rev. L. T. Lindholm came in 1898, and resigned in 1902. In May, 1903, Rev. E. G. Ander came as minister and resigned in 1907 and was succeeded by Rev. E. A. Swanson, who remained for about three years, when he was succeeded by Rev. William N. Johnson, who after a pastorate of three years, was succeeded by Rev. Emil Johnson, who remained for four years. He was succeeded by Rev. Paul J. F. Freedlind, who remained four years, when he was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. J. M. Henrikson.

In 1843 the Protestant Methodist Society was organized, and in the year 1845 a church was built. Preaching was maintained for about five years, when the interest in this movement became small. An attempt was made for a while to sustain Episcopal Methodist services. About 1855 an interest was manifested in Unitarian preaching, and in 1857 the North Easton Unitarian Society was organized. After a long season of transient preaching, in 1860 Rev. C. C. Hussey became pastor and remained for six years. In the autumn of 1867 Rev. Wm. L. Chaffin received a call from this society and accepted and preached as its pastor on the first Sunday of 1868. In August, 1875, the society moved into the beautiful church built by the late Hon. Oliver Ames and presented by him to the society. At that time it reorganized and assumed the name of Unity Church. Mr. Chaffin was the son of William Farrell and Louisa (Shattuck) Chaffin, and was born at Oxford, Maine, August 16, 1837, but early removed to Concord, N. H. He graduated at the Meadville, Pennsylvania, Theological School in 1861. He married, August 12, 1862, Rebecca Huidekoper, daughter of Michael Hodge and Margaret (Hazlett) Bagley, of Meadville. He was pastor for about three and one-half years of a Unitarian society in Philadelphia, and came to North Easton on January 1, 1868, and continued as pastor and pastor emeritus until his death, January 7, 1923. He received his degree of D. D. from Meadville Theological School in 1915. Mr. Chaffin was greatly beloved by all the people of the town. He was much interested in historical and genealogical matters, and his "History of Easton" is a monument to his thorough and painstaking work in this line. He also published a "History of the Randall Family in America," and left in manuscript a large amount of genealogical and family history. He was greatly interested in the schools, and was a member of the school committee for twenty-eight years. In 1914 Rev. Fred R. Lewis received a call to Unity Church, and remains as the present pastor, preaching at Eastondale also.

The Baptist Church was organized February 13, 1891, and the church building was dedicated June 20, 1895. The first pastor was Rev. Frederick Thayer, of Avon; then followed Revs. William H. Stewart, O. E. Cox, Birney E. Hudson, Norman E. Bishop, John A. Harding, Fred W. Blakeslee, George S. Bennett, Frank W. Wheeler, A. Davis Graffam, L. B. Hatch,

Leroy F. Griffin, C. J. Armstrong, Lewis H. Stone, Samuel Knowles, O. D. Thomas, Edward C. Dunbar, E. W. Kingman, Vivian Broderick. The mortgage on the church was paid in 1919, and the church is free from debt. There is also a Swedish Lutheran church in North Easton, the building located on Williams street, of which Rev. A. J. Hilmer is the pastor.

**Military.**—As the town of Easton was incorporated long after King Philip's War, there is nothing to record in regard to any warfare with the Indians. Easton, in common with other New England towns of the old colonial days, had its military company very early. Its captain was John Phillips, and its lieutenants were Edward Hayward and Elphalet Leonard. Edward Hayward served as captain in 1732 and was succeeded by Elphalet Leonard in 1744. Benjamin Williams was the next captain. Some time before the Revolution this company was divided into two companies of militia, one in the east and one in the west part of the town. We have little knowledge of the part taken by the citizens of Easton in the French and Indian war of 1754-63. The most prominent figure of that time is Captain Nathaniel Perry, who raised a company of men for the defense of the Eastern frontier. His commission as captain was dated June 6, 1754, and signed by Governor Shirley. He enlisted a company of 96 men, of whom only 16 were from Easton.

Easton was very active during the Revolutionary War, and sustained her part in that memorable struggle. It was voted, April 3, 1775, to raise fifty minute-men, twenty-five out of each military company in town. The battle of Lexington occurred April 19, 1775, and on this day these fifty minute men, under the command of Captain Macey Williams, started for the seat of war. Being enlisted merely as minute-men for what was called "the Lexington Alarm," they were out for only brief service, nine days.

In February, 1776, a committee of three was appointed to take care of such of the "poor of Boston" as were then in town. A committee of "correspondence and inspection" took general charge of war matters here, and committee was chosen "to incorage the manufacturin of Sault Peter in this town". On the first anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill, in a notable town meeting, the citizens voted that "if the Honerabel Continantal Congress for the safety of the United Colonies, Declare themselves independent of Great Breton, we ingage Even at the Resque of life and fotin to do What ever is in our Power to soport them in sd. measure". Soon followed the Declaration of Independence, and Rev. Archibald Campbell, the minister of Easton, read the heartstirring document to a large and eagerly-listening assembly on Sunday next after July 17, 1776. It was then handed to Matthew Hayward, who, like every other town clerk in Massachusetts, proudly recorded it in his town records. Among the military officers from Easton one of the most prominent was Col. Abial Mitchell. He was appointed major, May 19, 1775, and received his commission as colonel, June 17, 1779. He was prominent in town affairs, and served as representative to the General Court for twenty-one years. He served in the army until the close of the Revolutionary War, and many interesting incidents are told of his courage and prowess. Another of Easton's heroes in the war was Captain Elisha Harvey, in the artillery service. He was the hero of a brave action at the battle of Brooklyn Heights, where in face of the advancing



enemy and after the men had deserted their guns, he touched off two loaded cannon and then turned the gun-carriages about and sent them rolling down the bluff into the water. He then rushed down the cliff, entered a boat, and made for the opposite shore, which he reached, notwithstanding the hot fire that was poured after him. The action was reported to General Washington, by whom it was highly complimented. He was a sergeant in Drury's company of Knox's artillery in May, 1776. He was commissioned first lieutenant in Lamb's artillery regiment in 1780. He died at Easton, February 11, 1821. Another man who saw considerable service was Captain James Perry, who raised a company of soldiers as early as 1776. Captain Josiah Keith raised a company of soldiers, thirty-three of whom were from Easton, and served with them for awhile in Col. John Daggett's regiment. Subsequently for three years dating from January, 1777, he served as captain in Col. Michael Jackson's Eighth Regiment. He was then made major in the same regiment, in which capacity he served during the year 1780. A comparatively large number of men from Easton served in the Revolutionary War, many enlisting in the company of Captain Francis Luskcomb, of Taunton; in Captain Keith's; in Captain John Allen's company of Col. Carpenter's regiment; in Captain Macey William's company, and there were some scattered through various other companies.

The War of 1812 did not create much enthusiasm, and there are no facts concerning Easton's connection with it to call for any special notice. Easton furnished 385 men for the Army and Navy in the Civil War and expended over \$40,000 for war purposes. Besides this, large subscriptions were made by citizens, and there were here, as in other towns of the State, large contributions for camp and hospital stores. In common with other towns in the Commonwealth, Easton did her share in the World War, and 255 of her sons and daughters answered the call of duty. Of those mentioned, the following made the supreme sacrifice: Lieut. George Sarle Shepard, Lieut. Oliver Ames, Jr., Sergeant Winfield Skidmore Knowles; Yeoman Chester Rice Smith; Privates George Francis Schindler, Jeremiah Francis Sullivan, Lawrence Howard Swift, George Philip Workman.

**Educational.**—It was provided in the articles of incorporation of the town of Easton that within six months from the time of publication of such articles, the town should "procure and maintain a school-master to instruct their youth in writing and reading." The High School was organized in 1868, first as a peripatetic institution, moving into different sections of the town for different terms; but before long it was permanently located at North Easton, because more than half the scholars were there. The district system was abolished in 1869, and this change, here as elsewhere, has had a beneficial result. On May 1, 1920, there were in Easton 1117 children between the years of five and fifteen. Twenty-two per cent. of the inhabitants of Easton are in the local public schools. The total school expenditure was \$83,315.10 for year ending December 31, 1920. Easton is well equipped with modern school buildings. In addition to the Oliver Ames High School building and the New Grammar School building at North Easton, new buildings of modern design have been erected in recent years at South Easton at Unionville and at Poquanticut. As to means for educational purposes, the town of Easton probably stands first in the list of towns of the State. By the will of Hon. Oliver Ames, who died in 1877,

it was endowed with the large bequest of \$50,000 for the support of schools. In order that such a fund might not tempt the town to reduce its appropriations, the will provides that it shall be forfeited unless the town shall every year appropriate for the support of schools an amount per scholar equal to the average amount per scholar appropriated by all the towns of the State. The income of the fund is used for general school purposes. Besides this there is another fund of \$50,000 left by Hon. Oakes Ames for the benefit of the children of North Easton Village. By the aid of this fund, the High School is being equipped with excellent apparatus, various chemical and mechanical instruments, including microscope with numerous specimens, a skeleton and a manikin.

---

## CHAPTER VI.

### FAIRHAVEN

Fairhaven has had its interesting share in the evolution of ownership, and of township and political divisions of this far southeastern section of Bristol county, since the first substantial records of changes were made with the conveyance of the territory from the Indian proprietors in 1652. Formerly known as Sconticut, a name that is retained now only by a point of land to the south of the town, it is part of that territory that was conveyed by Chief Massasoit and Wamsutta, his son, November 29, 1652, the deed being signed by John Cooke and John Winslow—Wamsutta making his mark thereon, and the conveyance itself being made to Governor William Bradford. Up to the year 1787 the section was included in the Dartmouth territory, in which year Dartmouth, Westport and New Bedford were divided, the Fairhaven portion being part of New Bedford. Eventually, Fairhaven became a township by itself, including Acushnet, when February 22, 1812, the supporters of Thomas Jefferson on the Fairhaven side sought and obtained the town's incorporation.

Fairhaven's early town records were swept away in the great gale of September 23, 1815, which took the toll bridge with its contents, and the list of town officers is not to be had until 1816. June 15, 1815, a small part of Freetown was annexed to Fairhaven, and April 9, 1836, a small part of Rochester was annexed, and the bounds between those two towns were fixed. Acushnet became a town by itself February 13, 1860, and the Fairhaven bounds now remain as then established. In the early years of the Fairhaven village, all the town meetings were held at the "head of the river," but the Academy building, still standing, began to be occupied as the town house in 1832. A new townhouse was erected in 1843 on land near the Woodside cemetery, that was destroyed by fire in 1848. The present Town House, the gift to the town of Mrs. H. H. Rogers, was dedicated February 22, 1894, when Mark Twain, a lifelong friend of Henry H. Rogers, was one of the speakers. The town now has a population of 8,500.

Earliest of the arrivals in this section were John Cooke, son of Francis, and both of the "Mayflower," whose house was a few rods southeast of the Oxford schoolhouse, Fairhaven; Samuel Hickes, at Newlands Neck, in



the southeast part of the present town; William Palmer, who owned land situated south of the steam railway, extending east from the river. "Miss Jennings," widow of John Jenne, resided near Parting Ways. Samuel Cuthbert lived at the head of Sconticut Neck road. William Spooner's homestead included Riverside cemetery, the Dana farm, and more; James Shaw lived between the present railroad in Fairhaven and Fort Phenix. Fairhaven and Oxford were two settlements of simultaneous growth, the latter being known locally as the Point. Among those who first settled here were Seth Pope, Thomas Taber, Jonathan Delano, Isaac Pope, Lettice Jenny, Samuel Jenny, Valentine Huttleston, Samuel Spooner, William Spooner, John Spooner, Joseph Tripp, Daniel Sherman, Edmund Sherman, John Davis.

**In the Wars.**—George H. Tripp, librarian of the New Bedford Public Library, has made a very thorough survey of the history of the town in four wars, and it is from his paper read before the Old Dartmouth Historical Society that these excerpts are made: At the outbreak of the King Philip War, in the second month of that war, July, 1675, Dartmouth was almost immediately destroyed, thirty houses being left in ruins, and the inhabitants fleeing to the garrisons for shelter. John Cooke and his family were saved, taking refuge with others at the garrison; but four or five of the people living on this side of the river were killed. Elder Jacob Mitchell, a nephew of John Cooke, with his wife Susannah and her brother, John Pope, were killed early in the morning, as they were riding. Mr. Tripp states that as a direct result of the hardship endured by Dartmouth, the Plymouth Colony exempted all residents of this vicinity from taxation for four years after peace was declared. The fort at Nolscot (Fort Phenix), was built some time before June, 1775, and was two years in building. There had previously been a fort, probably a relic of Indian warfare, on the site of the Beacon, and called on the map of 1762 "Fort Ruins." Probably the first engagement in the Revolution occurred in Buzzards Bay, not far from West Island, and was engineered by Fairhaven men. Early in May, 1775, Daniel Egery and Captain Pope headed an expedition of Fairhaven men that was the means of recapturing two sloops and taking thirteen prisoners from the British. On September 6, 1788, the British gained possession of the fort, and landed at Fairhaven, with the intention of destroying the town. They would have been successful were it not for the gallantry of Major Israel Fearing, who made a stand with 100 to 150 men, and routed the enemy. Under the auspices of the Fairhaven Improvement Association, and at the suggestion of Job C. Tripp, then secretary of the association, a boulder to the memory of Major Israel Fearing was dedicated July 29, 1905, the speakers being Thomas A. Tripp, president of the association, Hon. William W. Crapo and Colonel George L. Montague. The memorial with its oval bronze plate was set up to commemorate the event of September 7, 1778, when the patriot Major Fearing with his small company met the British troops and drove them from the town. Again, in 1885, the Fairhaven Improvement Association placed upon a cannon that was in service at the fort in 1778, a tablet, giving its history. It had been taken from Nassau by the warship "Alfred," and was afterwards secured by Captain Nathaniel Pope, and set up at the fort. Recon-

structed in 1780, the fort was called Fort Fearing, but in 1784 it was known as Fort Phenix.

During the 1812 War, Fairhaven, by its situation, was very near the scene of much of the activity of the time, some of the town shipping being captured by the enemy, and the garrison at Fort Phenix being put in order for the defence of the harbor. A company of regular militia was formed in the town, with John Alden, Jr., as captain; and there was also a company of volunteers here under command of Joseph Bates, senior.

The fort was garrisoned during the Civil War period, and the New Bedford Home and Coast Guard occupied the works from May 12 to October 5, 1861. About 300 men from here had service in the Civil War. At Riverside cemetery a granite monument was erected in 1867 to the memory of 118 Fairhaven men who made the sacrifice for the Union cause in the Civil War.

Throughout the period of the World War, Fairhaven was second to no other town in the county in standing by the cause of the Allies. More than 600 men from this section represented the town in all branches of service.

**Schools and Churches.**—The first school of note in this town was the Academy, that was built in 1798, the agreement for the building being signed by thirteen people. The school in 1802 was taught by Richard Sawyer, John Nye and Abiah Haskell. After its uses as a school ceased, the building was purchased by Captain John A. Hawes. For some years Rev. William Gould conducted a young ladies' boarding school which brought pupils from other parts of the State, as well. The building was removed, and the school work ceased there when the railroad was built. The late Job C. Tripp, more than half a century a member of the school board of Fairhaven, recounting his experiences at a meeting of the Old Dartmouth Historical Society, stated that upon the abolishment of the school district system in 1869, it was hard for some few of the citizens to give it up. But prior to the new system now vested in the school committee, districts twelve and thirteen made a desperate effort to have a new schoolhouse built, with modern improvements and equipment. After many meetings it was voted to build a new schoolhouse, and to appropriate the sum of \$10,000 therefor. Eventually the whole matter fell through, and it was well, in view of the generous action shown afterward by a noted graduate of the Fairhaven high school in providing the princely accommodations to meet the educational wants of the whole town, and a large portion of the towns of Mattapoisett and Acushnet, as well.

The enrollment of pupils in Fairhaven schools for the school year ending June, 1922, was 1864, the average membership 1582, and the average attendance 1581. The appropriation for the elementary schools was \$65,000; for high school, \$10,000. Attendance from the town at the high school had increased 123 per cent. in the past ten years. The schools are: High, Rogers, Washington street, Job C. Tripp, Oxford, Edward Anthony. The high school was established January 26, 1852, the building then occupied having belonged to the Methodist denomination. Grammar schools were started in 1843; the Rogers school was built in 1885, and the Oxford school in 1896. The school superintendents have been: Z. W. Kemp,



E. B. Gray, F. M. Marsh, O. H. Toothaker, Charles F. Prior. The Fairhaven School Association was formed in 1894. Five trust funds provide in part for care and maintenance of the schools.

Few towns in the county of the size of Fairhaven are more completely supplied with churches of the various denominations. The prevailing order here, as well as throughout the county, at first, was Congregational. At about the year 1794 a plain wooden structure was built at what is now the corner of Main and Centre streets, and there the First Congregational Church in Fairhaven gathered, it being organized as "The Second Church of Christ in New Bedford"; and the year following, February 24, 1795, Rev. Isaac Weston was ordained the first pastor. During his ministry, in 1807, a revival took place, adding many to the church. He was dismissed in 1808; and there being antagonistic elements in the church, certain of the members withdrew in 1811 and formed the Third Church, whose services were held in a small schoolhouse that stood where the Union Hotel was constructed. But both churches settled their differences in 1820. Meantime, Rev. Abraham Wheeler had become pastor of the older church, he remaining five years, to be succeeded by Rev. Paul Jewett, in 1820. Rev. William Gould came to the church as pastor in 1823, and Rev. Jacob Roberts, his colleague, in 1839. Again there was trouble, which resulted in division in 1841, when the Centre Congregational Church was formed, its membership erecting the building at the corner of Centre and Walnut streets, now occupied by the Methodist Episcopal church. But that society disbanded in 1848. The older society built their brick church in 1844-45.

The Washington Street Christian Church (Unitarian) was organized November 30, 1820, Elder Charles Morgridge becoming the pastor in 1821. Therefore, since 1819, meetings had been held at the homes of the members and at the old Academy building. On December 7, 1832, the church was instituted as the Washington Street Christian Church, and December 15 the same year, the meetinghouse was dedicated, Elder William Taylor being the first pastor there. In the year 1865 a re-organization of the church was effected, in which the Christian scriptures were declared to be the sufficient rule for faith and practice. The present church building was built in 1901, the "Rogers Memorial," by the family of the late Henry H. Rogers.

The Methodist Episcopal Church in Fairhaven was organized in 1829, and in June, 1830, their meetinghouse was dedicated, this building later being occupied by the high school. In 1841 the Methodist society began to occupy the building left vacant by the Centre Congregational society. The Second Advent Society was formed in 1841, as a result of the preaching of Rev. William Miller. They purchased Sawin's Hall, and rebuilt it into a chapel for their uses. In 1849, the society of Friends built their meetinghouse on Bridge street.

The cornerstone of St. Joseph's Catholic Church was laid September 24, 1905. The church was opened December 25, 1905, and was dedicated by the Bishop, February 11, 1906. The pastor is Rev. Stanislas Bernard. The pastor of the Church of the Sacred Hearts, the parish as formed including Fairhaven, Mattapoisett and Marion, is Rev. Father Seraphim

Oghe. St. Joseph's parochial school and Academy of the Sacred Hearts are part of the Catholic foundation in the town.

**Banks.**—The Fairhaven Institution for Savings was incorporated February 10, 1832, with the following-named trustees: Ezekiel Sawin, Sylvanus Allen, Bartholomew Taber, Wilson Barstow, Philemon Fuller, Jr., Rowland Gibbs, George Hitch, Joseph Bates, F. R. Whitwell, Levi Jenney, Sampson Perkins, William L. B. Gibbs, Abner Pease, Lemuel Tripp, Joseph Tripp, James Tripp, Nathan Church, Jabez Delano, Jr. Ezekiel Swain was chosen president; Joseph Tripp, treasurer; William L. B. Gibbs, secretary. The business of the bank was started in its present building, occupying the rooms of the Fairhaven Insurance Company, and was continued there until, in 1876, the building was purchased from the Fairhaven National Bank. The second president of the bank was Isaiah F. Terry, who served sixteen years; he was succeeded by Captain George H. Taber, who was president twenty-two years. Captain Taber was succeeded in 1886 by Thomas A. Tripp, the president in 1923. Lewis E. Bentley is vice-president; Charles H. Morton, treasurer. The bank deposits in April, 1923, amounted to \$1,961,426.63.

In March, 1831, the Fairhaven Insurance Company and the Fairhaven Bank were chartered by the State, naming as incorporators the same group of Fairhaven whaling merchants. Both the bank and the insurance company had capitals of \$100,000; the bank capital was increased in 1836 to \$200,000, and in 1923 it was \$120,000. When this bank and the Marine Insurance Company were organized, Fairhaven was almost as largely interested in whaling ventures as the village across the river, and the same motives and considerations of business needs caused the merchants to establish these mutually serviceable agencies. The bank building now occupied by the Savings Bank was built in 1831, and here the Fairhaven Bank did business for forty-five years. In 1876 the National Bank of Fairhaven purchased the property next east of the old bank house, and there they began to occupy, and have remained to the present time. The building was thoroughly renovated in 1923. The bank in 1923 had resources of about \$500,000. The presidents: Ezekiel Sawin, April 20, 1831-May 19, 1862; George F. Tripp, May 26, 1862-September 12, 1878; Lewis S. Judd, September 16, 1878-May 12, 1884; Chas. H. Morton, May 12, 1884-July 1, 1904; Levi M. Snow, July 1, 1904-December 23, 1912; Geo. B. Luther, December 23, 1912. Vice-presidents: C. D. Hunt, February 21, 1879-January 14, 1884; May 18, 1884-September 19, 1903; Levi M. Snow, January 18, 1904-July 1, 1904. Cashiers: Duncan M. B. Thaxter, May 7, 1831-November 25, 1845; Reuben Nye, November 25, 1845-June 23, 1895; Geo. B. Luther, July 1, 1895-December 23, 1912; Edward T. Pierce, December 23, 1912.

**Public Utilities.**—The villages of Fairhaven and Oxford were first connected by a bridge across Herring river in 1795, and the layout of Main street to North street was then made. The next year, 1796, the toll bridge between New Bedford and Fairhaven, crossing Fish Island and Pope's Island, was built. This bridge was partly destroyed in 1807, and rebuilt. A bridge was erected on the easterly side of Crow Island from New Bedford to Fairhaven June 22, 1804. It was on September 23, 1815, that the



toll bridge from Fairhaven to New Bedford was swept away, and the bridge at the head of the river was built in 1828. The bridge across the Acushnet river at Oxford Heights was completed in 1892; and the widening and construction of the new bridge of the then existing New Bedford and Fairhaven bridge was begun in 1863. This bridge had been maintained as a toll bridge up to 1870, and thereafter it was maintained by New Bedford and Fairhaven.

The Fairhaven Branch railroad was opened in 1854 with its construction to Tremont, thus connecting with the main line to Boston. A steam ferry plied for years between Fairhaven and New Bedford, until the street railway was put into operation in 1872. In 1894 the road was changed from horse to electric. The proprietors of the New Bedford and Fairhaven ferry had incorporated March 8, 1832.

The first newspaper published for the interests of this town was the "Bristol Gazette," starting in 1812, at the time of the town's incorporation, and ceasing publication in July, 1813. The "Fairhaven Star" was first published February 18, 1879, by Charles D. Waldron. In August, 1902, it was installed in its present plant. Henry D. Waldron assumed the publication in March, 1916.

In 1893 the Fairhaven Water Company began its system of water works for supplying the town with water. In 1893 the New Bedford Gas and Edison Electric Light Company began supplying the town with lights, and in 1895 the board of sewer commissioners organized. The office of superintendent of streets was created in 1890. The present almshouse was built in 1894.

The Millicent Library was founded and given to the town by Mrs. William E. Benjamin, Mrs. Clara L. Broughton, Mrs. Mary H. Coe, and Henry H. Rogers, Jr., children of Henry Huttleston and Abbie P. Rogers, as a memorial to their sister, Millicent Gifford Rogers, who died August 31, 1890, at the age of eighteen years. The building was finished and ready for occupancy January 30, 1893, on which day dedication exercises were held. The library building is constructed of granite, with terra cotta trimmings, the style being Italian renaissance. The architect was Charles Brigham of Boston. A feature of the interior is the memorial window which fills the outer wall of the entrance hall. The librarians have been: Don C. Stevens, 1893-1901; Drew B. Hall, 1901-1911; Galen W. Hill, 1911—. There are now nearly 30,000 books in the library. The Oxford branch issued nearly 10,000 books in 1922.

The Rogers Memorial Monument, erected to the memory of Henry Huttleston Rogers, Fairhaven benefactor and captain of industry, was erected in the fall of 1911, and the formal dedication took place in the town hall, January 29, 1912, the anniversary of the birth of Mr. Rogers. The principal address was given by George H. Tripp, librarian of the New Bedford Public Library. Mr. Rogers was donor of the High School building, the Memorial Unitarian Church; Mrs. Rogers had the town hall built for a civic centre; the children of Mr. Rogers erected the Millicent Memorial Library, and the family gave the recreation ground in Cushman Park as a memorial of the colonial ancestor. Henry Huttleston Rogers was born in this town, January 29, 1840, received his early education here, and was graduated at the high school April 11, 1856. He afterwards lived

in the oil regions of Pennsylvania, in New York City, and in Ohio. He was prominent in the petroleum business with the firm of Charles Pratt & Company, and with the Standard Oil Company of Ohio. He was one of the members of the Standard Oil Trust, and occupied high positions with financial institutions, banks and railroads.

The postoffice was established in 1820, at the residence of Joshua Drew, who was the first postmaster. When that house was burned, the postoffice was transferred to Phenix block, thence to rooms opposite the Congregational church. The town hall was built in 1896, and the office was there for awhile, and thence it was transferred to the Masonic building. The postmasters since Joshua Drew were: Charles Drew, Joseph Cutler, J. T. Buttrick, Elbridge E. Morton, Charles H. Morton, Eben Aiken, Jr., Job C. Tripp, John I. Bryant, William C. Stoddard, Edward G. Spooner, William M. Allen.

The older and most general industry of the town was that of the whale fishery, when, in common with New Bedford, the town prospered and the wharves were scenes of activity for many years. In the year 1837, for example, Fairhaven owned thirty-seven whaling vessels, their owners having a capital of \$950,000, and nearly 1,000 men being employed. The fleet numbered forty-eight vessels in 1858.

The American Tack Company was incorporated in 1867, and in 1891 it merged with five other large tack companies as the Atlas Tack Corporation. There are also three marine railways; the D. N. Kelley wholesale fish dealers; and a number of boat builders.

An event of much international significance that took place in this town was that of July 4, 1918, when Viscount Ishii, Japanese Ambassador to the United States, presented to the town of Fairhaven a samurai sword, a memento of the fourteenth century, the gift of Dr. Toichiro Nakahama, of Tokio, in commemoration of the rescue of his father, Manjiro Nakahama, by Captain William H. Whitfield, of Fairhaven.

Fairhaven societies and clubs include the following-named: George H. Taber Lodge, A. F. and A. M., that in 1901 was presented by Henry H. Rogers with its present building; Gifford Chapter, No. 105, Order of the Eastern Star; Sconticut Tribe, No. 97, I. O. R. M.; Phenix Lodge, I. O. O. F., M. U.; the Colonial Club, Mrs. Horace K. Nye, president; Mrs. Pardon A. Howland secretary; the Village Improvement Association, now the Fairhaven Improvement Association, formed in 1882; Fairhaven Golf Club, organized in May, 1900; the Fairhaven Men's Club; the Fairhaven Veterans Association; the Educational Art Club; Post No. 96, American Legion.

---

## CHAPTER VII.

### FREETOWN

Freetown is that old settlement whose beginnings were co-incident with those of the present Fall River, the great manufacturing city that has gone out into the larger highways of the world, and completely separated itself from the mother town. Freetown retains the original name, and the significance of "Ye Freeman's Purchase" of that four-mile tract that was



made in 1659 by twenty-six men of Scituate, Duxbury, Taunton, Plymouth and elsewhere. In the story of the growth of Fall River, we have told whence these purchasers came, and who they were, and that the purpose of those first purchasers appeared to be a speculation in the property, as they did not come here to live, as a general thing. For example, Henry Howland of Duxbury, owner of the sixth lot in the purchase did not occupy, but his sons, John and Samuel, actually settled here. The lots that particularly interest the present Freetown, were purchased as follows: The twenty-second lot, which included much of the land upon which Assonet has been built, was purchased by John Barnes of Plymouth. Palo Alto Pierce, former town clerk, indicates that the south line of this lot corresponded with the south line of the burying-ground opposite the Christian church; and that the north line was probably near the north line of land owned by the Pickens estate, and that of Mrs. W. H. Hathaway, a little south of Elm street; while from east to west it extended from the bay four miles into the woods. Mr. Pierce further points to the fact that by the deed of 1685 all the meadows along the river "below the path" are excepted from sale, showing that there was a path along the river, corresponding to what is now Water street, ever since the settlement of the town, though not on the same lines. The twenty-third lot was purchased by John Tisdale, of Marshfield, but who later went to Taunton, and here also a portion of Assonet Village is situated. His son Joshua settled upon this lot and died there about 1714, and hence the high rock to the east of Assonet station is known as "Joshua's mountain." Freetown passed out of proprietary ownership in 1683, and was incorporated as a town. In 1803 Fall River was set off by itself. New Freetown, or East Freetown, that was formerly a part of Tiverton, was annexed to old Freetown in 1747.

**Churches and Schools.**—Though a town vote of June 10, 1699, proposed the building of a meetinghouse at that time, a church was not built until 1710, that being a house thirty-six by twenty-six feet. William Way, however, had already arrived on the scene as the first minister and schoolmaster. But as soon as the church was built, Rev. Joseph Avery, who also became the first minister at Norton, took up a brief residence here. Then, on June 2, 1713, Jonathan Dodson was "appointed a minister of the gospel from this town until there is a supply from England." Rev. Thomas Craighead was called in September, 1717. On account of trouble because of arrearages in the salary of that minister, Mr. Craighead became unpopular, and for twenty-five years nothing is said concerning a settled minister. Then in 1747 came Rev. Silas Britt from Bridgewater, a Yale College man, who had preached at Easton. In April, 1748, he was given a farm of fifty-three acres, from which and his stipend he was able to support himself. He remained here up to February 24, 1776. From that time onwards, until near the end of the year 1809, no settled minister had charge of the Congregationalist affairs here. In that year the old meetinghouse, which had stood within the northernmost limits of the present Fall River township, was demolished, and the present large meetinghouse at Assonet Village was built.

The Calvinistic Baptists had a strong following in this town and neighborhood during the latter part of the seventeenth century and the first part of the eighteenth. Rev. David Simmons was pastor of their church in the southerly part of Assonet Village, and he was succeeded by Rev. Philip

Hathaway up to 1807, in which year he, with his congregation, assumed the name "Christian Church". Thus, with its two ministers, ended that Baptist branch. The new Christian Church and society then formed built their new meetinghouse in 1832, the old meetinghouse being demolished in 1835. The present First Baptist Church in Fall River was formerly, before the division, the Second Calvinistic Church in Freetown. The Third Calvinistic Baptist had their meetinghouse on the county road east of the village in New Freetown, and Rev. Abner Lewis was their pastor for a short period. Besides the above-named churches, there is a Friends' meetinghouse, built in 1852 in the northerly part of the town; the Second Christian, built about the year 1830 at Mason's Corner in East Freetown; the Third Christian, at Braley's Four Corners, built in 1879, and the Fourth Christian near the Rochester line, built in 1865. For some time, the North Church and the Christian church formulated a union, during the pastorates of Revs. Mr. Dwight and Mr. Wallace, but the federation lasted only a few years.

The first schoolmaster recorded in Freetown was William Way, who served both as minister and school-master from 1705 to 1707. Though succeeding ministers may have taught the first school, the next made mention of was Jacob Hathaway, who was appointed May 15, 1718. Following him as schoolmasters were Thomas Roberts, the same year; William Gage in 1725; William Caswell, 1726. Two schoolhouses were built in 1722, but in 1727 they were sold at public auction. In 1745 the town purchased Ephraim Tisdale's house and land in the village a little south of the fountain and there Shadrach Hathaway taught many years. The building was destroyed by fire in 1772. Meantime, another schoolhouse was in process of building near the centre of the town, from May, 1748, to January 27, 1755. East Freetown being added to the town in 1747, their first schoolhouse was built in 1762 near Mason's Corner, by Captain Elisha Parker. The people in that part of the town were allowed sixty dollars in 1770 towards building a schoolhouse, and in August that year, James Tisdale was appointed their schoolmaster. Elijah Briggs was schoolmaster in the town in 1772, and he was succeeded by Shadrach Winslow, a college graduate.

Again, in 1773, a schoolhouse was built on the site of the house purchased of Ephraim Tisdale in 1745, and there also town meetings were held many years. In 1781 there were seven school districts, No. 1 being the south part of the town, now Fall River; No. 2, from Valentine's brook to the Barnaby place; No. 3, from the Barnaby place to the foot of Ridge Hill, including Bryant's Neck; No. 4, Assonet; No. 5, Slab Bridge and the district west of Bolton cedar swamp; No. 6, the district east of that swamp; No. 7, the district west of Watuppa pond. Freetown began to choose school committees in 1785, and in 1798 new buildings were erected in each district. The Assonet district then maintained two schools. When the south part of the town was set off in 1803, districts 1 and 7 were apportioned to Troy, later, Fall River. A new schoolhouse was built in East Freetown in 1804 on land of Shubael Howland; and in 1809 Dean Read was given the contract to build a schoolhouse and town house. A building was completed in 1818 on land of Cornelius Chase, and was used as a schoolhouse until 1862, when a new one was built west of it. The present Forge school building was erected in 1862; and in the early part of 1869 a new house was built in the south district. In the same year, old school buildings—the Pound, Forge



and Tripp, were sold and made over into dwellinghouses. The schoolhouses in the town in 1923 were the Village grammar and primary; the South grammar and primary, the Chase school; the East grammar and primary, and the Union grammar and primary.

In April, 1900, a school union with Swansea and Seekonk was effected, and a superintendent employed. Edward M. Hill was superintendent of schools here, in union with Westport, in 1923. The town appropriation for schools in 1923 was \$25,500. Eighteen pupils were attending high school in New Bedford, eleven in Fall River and one in Taunton. The prevailing law, whereby Massachusetts towns are liable to the expense of sending pupils to outside schools for further education, originated in Freetown, George B. Cudworth then of the Freetown school committee, advancing the proposition at the State House. Soon afterwards, Gilbert Nichols, also of the school board, fathered the proposition that the State bear part of the burden of that expense, and it was enacted into a law.

**In the Wars.**—Freetown's first company of militia was formed in 1683, with Thomas Terry as commander. This company, which retained its organization for more than a century, had Captain Benjamin Read for its commander during the Revolution. Captain Henry Brightman, from this town had charge of the Second company, and Captain James Norton of the Third company. John Hathaway was colonel of a regiment in which these served: Sylvester Richmond, lieutenant-colonel; Manasseh Kempton and Joseph Durfee, majors; and Captain Benjamin Weaver received promotion to lieutenant-colonel July 10, 1788. Captain James Richmond and Jonathan Richmond were in the marine service of the patriots 1778-80; and Colonel Joseph Durfee was in command of the company that repelled the British attack on Freetown at Fall River, May 25, 1778.

Assonet was known as a Tory stronghold just preceding the War of the Revolution, and Colonel Thomas Gilbert had here stored war materials, and by order of General Gage counted on three hundred followers to put down the insurrection hereabouts. But the Whig towns were in the ascendant, and the Tories were compelled to disperse, Colonel Gilbert himself finding safety aboard a man-of-war at Newport. In the War of 1812, Freetown furnished two companies, with Captains Lynde Hathaway and Simeon Ashley in charge.

On petition of Robert P. Strobbridge and fifty-two others, Company G of Assonet in Freetown was chartered June 7, 1850, and that company is often styled the school of the officers and forty-two of the soldiers of Freetown who fought in the Civil War. In that war, 155 men from Freetown enlisted for the preservation of the Union, eighteen of them being commissioned officers. Three men from here enlisted in the Spanish-American War.

The Honor Roll that was set up in front of the Guilford H. Hathaway Library building in Assonet, in August, 1918, when the soldiers were given a rousing welcome home, contains sixty-two names, one of them being indicated with a star. More than \$700 was raised during the war period in the united war drive. Eugene Herbert was chairman of the local Red Cross work; George Hathaway and Rufus Davis were the enrollment committee; Mrs. Ethel Davis was instructor of surgical dressings; Mrs. Catherine Clark

was chairman of the special aid society. John Thwaites was chairman for Freetown in the Liberty Loan drives.

**Industries.**—On Assonet River within a distance of about six miles, remain ten dams; on old Mill brook and Terry brook are three dams; and on Fall brook, in East Freetown, are six dams, whereon during the past nearly three centuries saw-mills, grist-mills, iron works, bleacheries and cotton manufactories have carried on the river industries of the town. Saw-mills built by the Winslow family remained in the family until 1893. Among those who have owned privileges on Assonet river have been: members of the Hathaway family, Josiah Winslow, Henry Porter, David M. Anthony, Captain John W. Marble, J. Henry Pierce. In 1704, a company built some ironworks on the land of Nathaniel Winslow; successively, the plant went into the hands of Thomas Strobbridge for scythe-making, in 1820, John Crane, Sampson and Nichols and Weaver and Osborne, Thomas and John Thorpe, and Crocker and Bassett. The mill was burned in 1874. A grist mill was run at Assonet Village for forty years by David Babbitt; higher up the stream, were the Philip Rounseville dam and saw-mill; the David Terry bleachery privilege; Captain Henry H. Winslow's mill; Benjamin and Henry Porter's trip-hammer shop. Many other small mills have been built at dams along this river, from time to time, notably those of A. W. Pierce and Charles S. White, Julius C. Haskins and John T. Haskins.

On Mill brook there have been operated saw-mill, grist-mill and foundry, and near the head of Payne's cove, Edmund B. Lewis had a bleachery and dye-house. On that site the present Crystal Spring Bleachery and Dyeing Company bleacheries, with a capital of \$125,000, started in 1882; they employ 200 hands. Albert A. Harrison is president of the company; John Thwaites, treasurer; and they and A. C. Thwaites are the directors.

A cupola furnace was built on Terry brook in 1829, that was run by Elkanah Doggett until about 1834, after which Gideon P. Hathaway made threshing machines there; the building was then a spooling mill, and John Thorpe was the first to conduct the waste-cleaning business in the town. The mill was burned, and the Crystal Spring Bleachery is now on its site. In 1784 there was a blast furnace on Fall brook, at East Freetown, where iron-ore was smelted and hollow-ware manufactured. The section is still known as "Furnace," or Furnace Village, and Rounseville Furnace. Later purchasers of this property for various uses were James Alger of Bridgewater, General Cromwell Washburn of Taunton, Colonel Salmon Fobes and Nahum Alger of Bridgewater. The Providence Foundry Company purchased the property in 1818, and built a cupola furnace. A sash and blind factory was afterwards operated here. For many years also, members of the Burns family had a saw-mill farther up the river. N. R. Davis & Sons, manufacturers of sporting firearms, began the business of the manufacture of muzzle-loading rifles at the Forge, July 1, 1853. In 1854 they removed to the old Thresher building near the foot of Water street, and there in 1858 they introduced the muzzle-loading shot-gun manufacture; in 1861 they began the manufacture of parts of the Springfield rifled muskets. In 1862 Mr. Thresher retired, and Thomas G. Nichols, M. D., became an equal partner in the firm. The gun-shop burned to the ground May 19, 1864, a total



loss, and it is believed there was incendiary cause. Work was resumed in the Nichols & Sampson store. In 1866 the rim-fire breech-loading double guns were first made. In the winter of 1893-4 the old Assonet Machine Company building was occupied and enlarged. W. A. and N. W. Davis were admitted as partners in 1883. In 1923 the New England Oil Refining Company purchased a number of farms for the location of their business at Assonet. The Swiss Textile Company for the manufacture of absorbent cotton and napkins has been established here for some years. The capital of the company is \$98,000. J. Rupert is president; D. McBane, secretary.

Formerly, ship-building was a Freetown industry that gave employment to many. The first vessels were built here in 1782, and the last one in 1848. The list includes 158 sloops, 72 schooners, 20 brigs, one brigantine, two barks, one ship, a total of 254 vessels. Many ship captains and owners of vessels were natives, or had their homes here.

**Town Hall, Library, etc.**—The present Town Hall was built in 1888. The town clerks have been as follows: Samuel Gardiner, 1688 and 1691; Joshua Tisdale, 1696-99; Thomas King, 1700; John Read, Jr., 1701-15; Lieutenant Robert Durfee, 1716; John Read, 1717-18; Jonathan Dodson, 1719; John Read, 1720-37; Joseph Reed, 1738-44; Ambrose Barnaby, 1745-49; Abiel Terry, 1750-62; Ambrose Barnaby, 1763-66; Zebedee Terry, 1767-74; Samuel Barnaby, 1775-79; Philip Hathaway, 1780-87; Ephraim Winslow, 1788-94; William Ennis, 1795-99; Benjamin Porter, 1800; Ebenezer Pierce, 1801; Captain Job Pierce, 1802; Ebenezer Pierce, 1803-05; Lieutenant William Pratt, 1806-23; Thomas Bump, M. D., 1824-25; Elder James Taylor, 1826; John T. Lawton, 1827-28; Ephraim Atwood, 1829-31; Thomas Bump, 1832-34; Colonel Ephraim Winslow, 1835-36; Alden Hatheway, Jr., 1837-39; Davis J. Barrows, 1840-41; Joseph B. Weaver, 1842-48; Thomas G. Nichols, 1849-58; Silas P. Richmond, 1859-62; George W. Hall, 1863; Don C. H. Hathaway, 1864-74; Humphrey A. Francis, 1875-78; Palo A. Pierce, 1879-84; William A. Davis, 85; Palo A. Pierce, 1886-97; Joseph H. Taylor, 1897-1902; Gilbert M. Nichols, Walter H. Cudworth.

Through the efforts of Miss E. Florence Hathaway a town meeting in March, 1892, voted to organize a library with Gilbert M. Nichols, George B. Cudworth and Miss Hathaway as trustees. The library thus established is known as the Guilford H. Hathaway Library. The necessary appropriation was made, and the State sent the equivalent in books, Miss Hathaway, Mr. Cudworth and Mr. Nichols alternating as librarians. The books were kept at the Town Hall at first; then, with the gift of the lot by John D. Wilson and through the gift of Miss Hathaway, the present building was erected in 1895. Miss Florence M. Dean succeeded Miss Hathaway as regular librarian in 1895; she was succeeded in 1901 by Miss Helen Winslow, and she in 1919 by Miss Gertrude H. Davis.

There are two postoffices in Freetown, one at Assonet Village and the other at East Freetown. The former is in the Hathaway Library building, the official name of this postoffice having been changed April 1, 1901 from Freetown to Assonet; and rural delivery was established April 1, 1902. The postmasters have been as follows: Stephen B. Pickens, 1811-17; Robert Strobridge, 1817-22; George Pickens, 1822-41; Guilford H. Hathaway, 1841-45; Joshua Shove, 1845-72; Daniel L. Johnson, 1872-82; Elbert F. Winslow, 1882-86; Elnathan P. Hathaway, 1886-89; C. Isabel Hatheway,

1889-97; Miss M. Florence Dean, 1897-1901; Miss Helen Winslow, 1901-19; Mrs. Gertrude A. Davis, 1919—. Amos Bailey was the first postmaster at East Freetown, 1811-16; Abraham Braley served from 1816 to 1822, when the office was discontinued, to be re-established in 1852; Reuel Washburn served from 1852 to 1886; David Lawrence from 1886 to 1887; Rachel E. Lawrence in 1887.

The assessed value of buildings in the town in 1922 was \$678,720; of land, \$457,905; of personal property, \$319,074. Shade trees were set in the highways in 1889; the State highway macadam road was built in 1907; the auto-bus line was started to Fall River in 1916; the Grange was organized in 1913; the streets were first lighted with electricity in 1920.

---

## CHAPTER VIII.

### MANSFIELD

Situated in the north part of the county, its north line bounding Norfolk county, Mansfield is noted for its varied industries, both metallurgical and agricultural, as well as for the fact that its early history was woven with that of the first towns established in this part of New England. Preferring the town management method, it is a progressive municipality, its business and professional men and benefactors keeping the town to the fore through enterprise and thrift. The contributions of William G. Davis, the historian of the town, have aided in the preparation of this chapter.

The town of Mansfield, formerly the north precinct of the town of Norton, was set apart as a district April 26, 1770, by an act of the Great and General Court. The town was incorporated in 1775 and was named in honor of William Murray, the Earl of Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, England. Murray was born at Perth, Scotland, in 1704. He entered Oxford University, and was called to the bar in 1731. He became lord chief justice of the king's bench in 1756, and died in 1793 in his 89th year. The first settlers in what is now the town of Mansfield, were Thomas Brintnall, who came from Cambridge in 1685; and the same year (1685) there came to the eastern part of the town, John, Samuel and Benjamin Caswell of Taunton, Thomas Caswell, Senior, being one of the proprietors of Taunton North Purchase. In the following year (1686) other families came up from the Taunton settlement, notably members of the Dean, the White, Leonard and Williams families. They settled on the east side of the river, while the Brintnalls had for neighbors on the west side, Grover and Skinner families from Cambridge and Malden. Later to the east side came Josiah Pratt and Joseph Elliott, with their families.

**The Churches.**—The First Parish Church was organized in conformity to the law of the time at the house of Isaac Wellman, on the present South Main street, August 31, 1731. The first minister was Rev. Ebenezer White, of Brookline, and like many another of the young clerics of this section, he began preaching before his ordination, the latter taking place February 23, 1737. The second meetinghouse was erected in 1766-7, on land that



was set apart for the ministerial holdings, that forms part of the South Common; and the second minister was Rev. Roland Green, who came here from Malden.

The Friends' meetinghouse was erected in 1809, on land donated for the purpose by Abraham Crowley. This society was connected with the Friends' Conference of Smithfield, Rhode Island. The first Methodist meetinghouse was erected in 1810 by the followers of Jesse Lee and Richard Bonsell. The second church building of that denomination was erected in 1842 by the Anti-Slavery Methodists, who had been members of the church that was formed in 1810. The Baptist church was erected in 1836 by members of the society, whose minister was Rev. Mr. Torrey of Foxboro. The present Congregational church was erected by former members of the First Parish society, in 1836-38. The Emmanuel Methodist Episcopal church was erected in 1876, and is a daughter of the church of 1842. Morton Chapel, that was erected in the western part of the town in 1830, was later the possession of the Christian Church Society. The edifice was destroyed by fire in 1920, and was replaced by a handsome meetinghouse of Old English design. The New Jerusalem Society erected their meetinghouse in 1871 on West street. The Universalist society, an offshoot from the First Parish Society of 1731, erected their meetinghouse on Rumford avenue in 1889.

In 1859, the Mansfield Catholic parish became united under Rev. Father Carroll in a mission with parts of Bridgewater, comprising Foxboro, South Walpole, the Wrenthams and "Furnace". Up to the formation of the parish in 1894, this was a mission of St. Mary's, North Attleboro. The first church here was built in 1871 and dedicated in 1872, the organization having been brought about by Rev. Father Thomas Elliott. The old church was burned July 29, 1914, and the cornerstone of the present church was laid in 1915, the church being dedicated September 26, 1915. The pastor, Rev. Father Hugh B. Harrold, came here in March, 1910.

The Episcopal church, formerly a mission, with Rev. Horace H. Buck as pastor in 1895, erected their chapel on Rumford avenue in 1910.

In the Wars.—Previous to the Revolutionary War, Mansfield, then North Norton Precinct, had its company of infantry, the Second Company of the Third Regiment of Bristol County Militia. The roll of the company in 1757 (Captain Ephraim Leonard), included one hundred officers and men. In 1765, the company was divided into the Seventh Company of the Fourth Regiment, and the Third Company of the Fourth Regiment, under Colonel John Daggett, of Attleboro. The former company was commanded by Captain Abial Clapp, and the latter by Captain Samuel White. Though the town had a population of but eight hundred, 250 men from this section were in Revolutionary service. In the 1812 war, fifty men of Mansfield were drafted into the service of the United States. In the Civil War, Mansfield furnished 261 men, a surplus of seventeen above all demands made upon the town. The whole amount raised, appropriated and expended on account of the war, exclusive of State aid, was \$35,142.21. There were three men from this town in the Spanish-American War service.

Early in 1917, the Committee on Public Safety as appointed by the Board of Selectmen were on duty, Daniel C. Richardson, chairman; Charles Shields, clerk. Justin L. Cobb was chairman of the sub-committee on finance; William H. Lyons chairman of the committee of co-ordination of aid societies; Thomas H. Nelson, of emergency, help and equipment; Herbert W. Butterworth, of food production and food conservation; William C. Fuller, of industrial survey; William H. Allen, of military equipment and supply; William F. White and William H. Lyons, of publicity; Thomas H. Nelson, of State protection; John H. Somers, transportation; Moses L. Greene, military forces, camps, mobilization and concentration; Fred W. Day, Home Guards; George A. Wilbur, horses; William F. White, recruiting for army and navy; Fred Dustin, trucks and motor cars; W. H. Allen, M. D., hygiene, medicine and sanitation; Judge Charles C. Hagerty, executive committee. The Soldiers' Aid Society, organized when our troops were called to the Mexican border, reorganized in April, 1917, with Mrs. Charlotte Allen as clerk and corresponding secretary, and Miss Jennie Copeland as treasurer.

The first patriotic demonstration at the beginning of the World War was that of Thursday, April 19, 1917, with the flag-raising at Lowney Park, and 1500 marchers in line. The flag was presented by Walter M. Lowney, and the principal speaker was Hon. Louis A. Frothingham. The local company of the State Guard was accepted in May, 1917, and on May 24, Carroll L. Bessom was elected captain of the company, Albert T. Hodges first lieutenant, Percy E. White second lieutenant, the drill being under the supervision of Major Norris O. Danforth. Forty-five members of Mansfield Company 19, as it was called, were eventually mustered into the service, Thursday, July 19, by Brigadier-General Samuel D. Parker, with Captain Carroll L. Bessom in command; First Lieutenant Percy E. White; Second Lieutenant Harry J. Lindsey. Later, the number of the company was increased to sixty-five, when Lieutenant White was succeeded by Second Lieutenant Harry L. Lindsey, and the latter by Edwin H. Burt. Shortly after, First Lieutenant Lindsey resigned, and Ralph A. Buck was made second lieutenant, so continuing up to the time of the armistice.

In the work of registration, Division No. 41, State of Massachusetts, was composed of the following towns in Bristol county: Mansfield, Easton, Norton, Rehoboth, Raynham, Dighton, Somerset, Seekonk, Swansea; and the board was composed of Daniel F. Buckley, of North Easton, chairman; Fred W. Day, of Mansfield, secretary; Dr. Frederick S. Griffin, of Mansfield. The board began its duties in June, 1917, and concluded in April, 1919. Men were inducted into service from the various towns, as follows: Mansfield, 138; Easton, 133; Somerset, 71; Seekonk, 60; Dighton, 57; Norton, 46; Swansea, 45; Rehoboth, 33; Raynham, 28. Mansfield furnished for the World War 312 men; of this number twelve made the supreme sacrifice.

The Mansfield Branch of the Red Cross, before North Attleboro assumed charge of the work, was started by Mrs. Clara Cobb under the direction of the Soldiers' Aid. She organized that work and was at its head for one year, when it was reorganized as a Red Cross Chapter, and Mrs. Glenna Dinsmore was appointed president; Mrs. Charlotte Allen sec-



retary; and Miss Jennie Copeland treasurer. Mrs. Charles Hagerty had charge of the sewing; Mrs. Alice Stone, the knitting; Mrs. Beatrice Huston, comfort kits; Mrs. Mabel Ramsdell, junior work; Mrs. Lucy Copeland, surgical dressings. Mrs. Etta Cobb was purchasing agent. Mrs. Flint of East Mansfield and Mrs. Charles Richardson had charge of sewing for their communities. Each of the above-named worked untiringly until they went to other departments. Mrs. Belle Lyons had charge of the knitting after a year. Ralph Westcott, who was superintendent of schools here at the time, assumed the junior work. The first field day was held under the charge of Mrs. Clara Cobb, Mrs. Belle Lyons and Mrs. Gertrude Vickery. This was one of the biggest events ever held in this town, when more than \$3000 was cleared. The second field day proved equally successful, when Mrs. Grace Winter and Cleveland Strople had charge. The first drive was in charge of D. C. Richardson, W. H. Lyons and Walter H. Lowney, when \$6,800 was raised, the apportionment being \$6,000. A military whist was held at Town Hall; prizes were given by townspeople; Miss Jennie George was chairman.

The doctors of Mansfield, too, shared in the call of the World War, Drs. Allen and Latham going into the medical service. Dr. W. H. Allen was captain of the Medical Corps at Camp Upton; he received his appointment in July, 1918, and was discharged from the service January 28, 1920. Dr. B. M. Latham was also a captain in the Medical Corps; he went to Camp Ben Harrison in May, 1917, and thence to Forts Adams, Greble and other cantonments. The Boys' clubrooms were used, also rooms in town hall, for meetings, and no rent was charged. Mrs. Lucy Copeland opened her home for the work of surgical dressings. William McDermott worked untiringly for the families of soldiers in service; he was selectman and one of the overseers of the poor. Mrs. Lucy Copeland and Mrs. Lena D. Tucker, the clerk of the chapter, took a course in home service and social aid in Boston. Mrs. Christine Thompson, Mrs. Marion LeRoe and Miss Roberta Laurie were in charge of dancing occasions in behalf of the chapter. Mrs. Stacia Dacy, Mrs. Emma Dacy, Mrs. Hearn, Mrs. Gallipeau and Mrs. Reccord assisted in the knitting. The entire amount of Liberty Loan subscriptions at the First National Bank during the World War was \$756,250. In the United Work campaign, Mansfield raised \$10,580.70, the town's quota being \$8,000. F. D. Fairbanks was chairman of the committee.

**Schools.**—The first schoolmaster in what is now Mansfield was Thomas Skinner, who was settled here in 1719, being hired to teach the pupils to read, cypher and spell. At that time school was held at the homes of John Caswell, Lieutenant Nicholas White, Timothy Wellman, Solomon Bates and Nathan Williams; later at the Mulberry Tavern. The first school building in East Mansfield was erected in 1803, and in 1811 another was built in the Whiteville district. After the tavern had been used as a school building, a brick school was built, and that was replaced by the No. 4 building in the early sixties. The present Central school receives pupils of the seventh, eighth and grammar classes; No. 3 school building receives the pupils of the former Nicholas White district and the Green school, No. 5, takes the major portion of the pupils on the west side of the Rumford river. Among the schoolhouses built in recent years are

the high school, erected in 1911, at a cost of about \$60,000; the Paine school on Chauncey street, also erected in 1911; the John H. Berry school, erected in 1915—all of brick construction. In the north end of the town, the Spaulding school was built in 1906; and another four-room building was built in 1923. The town raises and appropriates the sum of \$100,000 annually for school purposes, which compares well with any of the nearby towns of its size in the county.

In 1891, Mansfield joined with Sharon and Stoughton in forming a superintendency district, with Edward P. Fitts as the first superintendent. A little more than two years afterwards, Mansfield and Sharon closed the arrangement, and Ralph W. Westcott was the choice for Mansfield. He remained a little over two years, excepting the time he was in the government service, when Everett W. Robinson substituted for him. Mr. Westcott was succeeded by Nelson G. Howard, superintendent in 1923. August 23, 1902, military instruction was added to the scientific course at high school, and Captain (now Major) Norris O. Danforth, of Taunton, was secured as military instructor, which position he held until 1922, when the athletic activities were handed over to Stanley Burnham of the high school faculty. The school census of 1922 showed the number of pupils to be 1,253, with a staff of forty-one teachers, and supervisors in music, drawing, and physical training. The town paid out in 1922 the sum of \$54,039.67 for teachers' salaries. The graduates of Mansfield schools find ready employment in any of the business houses, and they are representing the bench and bar, and the State Legislature.

**The Municipality.**—The town of Mansfield voted to accept the State Act providing for the Town Manager form of government, July 12, 1920, by a vote of 508 in favor to 255 against. The change to Town Manager went into effect January 17, 1921, with Elbridge R. Conant elected to that position. A number of governing boards were eliminated when this new form of government took place, namely, the fire district, with a prudential committee; the water board, the municipal lighting department; the board of health, and a finance committee; and their powers and duties were transferred to the board of selectmen. A superintendent was appointed as head of the public works and the water works departments; the superintendent of public works was given direction of the gypsy moth and tree warden duties; a member of the water works department was made sealer of weights and measures; the town accountant was appointed health officer; the manager of the electric light plant was appointed superintendent of the fire alarm system.

The Mansfield Fire Department was organized in 1888, and the town is considered fortunate in the possession of a volunteer department that has no superior for its size and equipment in the county. The force in 1923 consisted of thirty-five men, together with the chief, deputy chief, chauffeurs and mechanic; also the forest fire wardens in the east, west and south parts of the town. The apparatus consists of one six-cylinder Seagrave pumper, capable of throwing 750 gallons a minute; one city service Seagrave ladder truck; a White combination truck; a Pope Hartford combination chemical truck; fire chief's auto; and three pieces of horse-drawn apparatus in reserve. The department has 4,300 feet of regulation fire hose; 2,000 feet of double-jacketed hose; and 750 feet of chemical hose. In



1923 there were thirty-four signal boxes, with several to be placed in the east and west sections of the town. The central fire station is on West Church street; and since the water mains have been extended to the east and west sections it is believed that hose houses will be erected in those sections. The forest fire wardens also are fully supplied with chemical fire extinguishers of the Underwriter type. The report of Fire Chief Herbert E. King for 1922 showed that the value of buildings and contents endangered by the fire was estimated at \$108,465, but the total amount of loss was \$3,801, and the total number of alarms was 103.

For years the town depended upon wells but in the early eighties began agitation for water supply; and under special act of Legislature this was done, the work being completed and the water turned on October 22, 1888. In 1922 the town voted to accept the water district, with all its liabilities. The water lines have been extended to the east and west villages, so that the close of 1923 found all sections of the town fully equipped both for domestic and fire purposes.

In 1903 the town voted the sum of \$40,000 to build a municipal lighting plant, and as a result, today the plant is supplying hundreds of householders, in addition to the sale for manufacturing purposes. Under the supervision of Superintendent Maxwell, the plant is in the best of condition.

Mansfield in 1912 began to build the macadam and the Telford-Macadam roads, until all the streets are of the tarvia construction. The town has about seventy-five miles of highway to care for, at a cost of \$30,000 a year.

Mansfield's new townhouse was dedicated in 1883, the sum appropriated for the building being \$15,000. The postoffice, Carroll L. Bessom postmaster in 1923, has a building of its own. It was formerly at the Four Corners, and in the old Park Hotel building.

Mansfield was without fire protection previous to 1888, but in the fall of that year, the Mansfield Water Supply District was formed, and in October two volunteer hose companies were organized. The Mansfield Fire District was formed in 1889, and William H. Angell was chosen chief engineer of the district. A. W. Cobb was chosen chief in 1892, and held the office until his death, January 20, 1897. Herbert E. King has been chief since that time.

The Mansfield Board of Trade was organized in 1892, and has been instrumental in inducing a number of large and prosperous industries to locate in the town. D. S. Spaulding was elected first president of the board, and he served two years. Judge C. C. Hagerty succeeded him, and served to 1904; and I. W. Lucas was president to 1906, and was succeeded by H. E. King. The officers in 1923: President, Russell W. Wheeler; vice-presidents, George F. F. Roberts, Leo M. Bannon, Herbert W. Butterworth; secretary-treasurer, Francis D. Fairbanks; directors: Lendall C. Holway, Harry W. Snyder, John W. Rathbun.

Mansfield's gas lighting and heating service is supplied by the Taunton Gaslight Company, of Taunton, incorporated in 1853.

The total valuation of Mansfield's real estate in 1922 was \$4,924,710; the total valuation of personal estate, \$1,444,060; number of acres in the township, 11,369; number of dwellings in the town, 1337.

**Public Utilities.**—The First National Bank of Mansfield was established in August, 1901. The first president was Alfred B. Day; and other residents of Mansfield who were directors at this time were David E. Harding, Frank M. Cobb, Justin L. Cobb, Charles C. Hagerty, Doliver S. Spaulding. The board of directors in 1923: Frank L. Cady, president; Frank M. Cobb, vice-president; Justin L. Cobb, Charles C. Hagerty, Fred-eric Hewey, and Ira C. Gray. The latter was cashier since the incorporation. This was the first National Bank in this town. The savings bank account has been very rapid in growth in recent years. It was established in November, 1906. Walter M. Lowney, who had been a member of the board of directors fifteen years, took a very active interest in the bank. He died in 1921.

The Mansfield Co-operative Bank was organized February 22, 1883, and commenced business March 21, that year. The officers in 1923 were: President, D. C. Richardson; vice-president, John Somers; treasurer, Herbert E. King; clerk, Charles N. Crane. The board of directors, the above-named and Jesse R. Hodges, Austin Mason, H. W. Butterworth, William Olliff, Arthur E. Shields, K. C. Sherman, H. W. Snyder, Charles N. Crane, Thomas J. Fox, William L. Winter, Oliver P. Cook, J. W. Rathbun.

Every institution of importance is conceived first in the mind of some individual. The prophet who saw the vision of a free public library in Mansfield was the Rev. Jacob Ide, beloved pastor of the Congregational church of this town for more than forty years. Just when Mr. Ide thought of this library we do not know, but we do know that in the fall of 1883 he became very active in making the vision a reality. Through his efforts, \$1,560.37 was subscribed for the purpose. The largest single contribution was \$500, the gift of Mr. J. Frank Comey. Mr. Comey, who recently died in New York, was for many years the head of the well known Comey Company "Straw Shop". Other gifts ranging from \$50 down to five one dollar contributions made up the amount. At the next annual town meeting, that of March 17, 1884, Mr. Ide presented and ably advocated the project. The town voted to establish the Mansfield Public Library, and appropriated \$500 for its use that year. The following trustees were elected: Rev. Jacob Ide, William L. Robinson, William A. Copeland, Alfred Rogerson, Charles T. Borden, and I. W. Lucas. On March 21, four days after their election, these six men met to organize and make plans for the library. Mr. Ide was chosen president, and Mr. Lucas secretary. It is interesting to note that Mr. Ide served as president until his death in 1898. Mr. Borden also served on the board until his death, which came in 1890. While Mr. Lucas did not serve continuously, because of his absence from town for a few years, he served many years. Mr. William A. Copeland, who had served continuously on the board for thirty-seven years when he resigned in 1921, was for twenty-one years the secretary. Mr. William L. Robinson had served for thirty-six consecutive years when he resigned in 1920. Most of the time after the death of Mr. Ide, Mr. Robinson served as president. During 1920-21 Mr. Copeland was president. Since that time Everett W. Robinson, son of William L. Robinson, has held the chair.

The Library was opened in one of the small rooms of the lower Town Hall on August 2, 1884, with 1,319 books on its shelves. During the



first seven months 859 cards were issued to borrowers, which showed that there was considerable interest on the part of the town's people. The rooms were open on Tuesday evenings and on Saturday afternoons and evenings. Miss Alice Hallett was the first librarian, and she gave out an average of 340 books every Saturday. In four years the institution listed 1935 volumes and had quite outgrown its quarters. In August, 1888, it was moved across the corridor to the three small rooms which had been fitted up on the south side of the hall. Here it remained until July 9, 1901, when it was moved to its present abode on the first floor of the Memorial building, completed at that time as a memorial to the soldiers of the Civil War. From the nucleus of 1,300 volumes to start with the library had now grown to 13,000. Gradually the number of open days was extended until by 1914 the rooms were open from 2:55, and from 6:59 of every week day except Wednesday. Since September, 1921, it has been open every week day from 2 until 9. When in 1901 the trustees were about to move to the new building and saw the need of additional money for decoration and equipment, someone suggested that Andrew Carnegie, who was then doing so much for public libraries throughout the country, be approached for a donation. With characteristic New England independence they turned the suggestion down, and instead appointed an auxiliary committee of women. These ladies by various enterprises earned the money to purchase the casts, statuary, and some of the pictures which now beautify the interior of the building. The town has ever been most generous in its support, always appropriating whatever the trustees asked for, even to jumping from \$1,000 to \$2,000, and then the next year to \$4,000, as it did in 1921 when the trustees desired to make extensive alterations. The library now has two librarians, and has on its list 8,270 volumes.

The Mansfield News, September 14, 1923, observed the twentieth anniversary of its establishment. The plant and business was started by S. P. Brown, his first editor being Edwin W. Clark. Stillman B. Pratt, who became associated with the publishers, sold his interests to Thomas S. Pratt in November, 1873, and he associated with him his brother-in-law, William White, and the business was established at the present location, 172 North Main street, under the style Pratt & White. Thomas S. Pratt sold his interests in 1881 to William White, and his associate editors, Henry Guimond and George M. Barron, the latter remaining four years, being succeeded by Isaac W. Lucas, and he by Walter Robinson, who remained until 1913. In May, 1914, Henry D. Smith became associate editor, and the latter purchased the business in 1917. During the World War, over 300 copies of the News were mailed each week to the men in the service. Mr. Smith sold the business to George W. Giles, October 1, 1921, who associated with him Howard N. Fowler as editor and manager.

The Mansfield Soldiers' Memorial Building and Library was built in 1888 on a lot of land donated by Mrs. E. F. Noble, and the structure was dedicated June 17, 1901, its cost being \$10,000, which was voted for the purpose by the town. The first floor of the building is used for library purposes, and the Grand Army hall is on the upper floor.

The Lowney Tavern, one of the best appointed inns between Boston and Providence, was built in 1907 by the late Walter M. Lowney, the

well-known chocolate manufacturer. It is located near the railroad station and the bank.

**Clubs and Fraternities.**—The Mansfield Winthrop Club was organized November 13, 1893, and incorporated June 25, 1897. Its quarters are the entire third floor of the Wheeler building on North Main street. There are 150 members. The officers are: Fred W. Day, president; Clarence B. Pike, Everett W. Robinson, vice-presidents; Harry R. Fisher, secretary; Henry E. Fairbanks, treasurer. These officers, with Carroll L. Bessom, Thomas E. Kane, Arthur C. Conrad and Francis D. Fairbanks, comprise the board of governors.

Ten Mansfield women, including the hostess, writer A. E. B., met at Mrs. Abbie Copeland's, Thursday, December 12, 1900, to consider the desirability of forming a club for mutual improvement and sociability. The club was first named Mayflower, but later changed to New Century. Mrs. Kate Morton Hanaford was the first president, and there were nineteen charter members. During the first year meetings were held at the homes of members with one exception, that of a lecture in Trinity Hall by Mrs. Elizabeth C. Lovering on "Our Pilgrim Foremothers." Papers by members on authors, artists and composers, and current events, comprised the programs, also music and readings by local talent. From this small group of women the New Century Club has grown and flourished. Its object is threefold: social, literary, and humanitarian. The present membership is 211. Some speakers of prominence who have addressed the club are Marshall L. Perrin, Rev. R. Perry Bush, Rev. Paul Revere Frothingham, Rev. Dr. William Van Allen, Payson Smith and others. There have also been women speakers, one of the more recent being Miss Mina Kerr, dean of Wheaton College at that time. There have been lectures on China, together with exhibitions of embroidery, curios and other articles of interest from that country. Speakers concerning Russia have also been heard. Cookery, home millinery, dressmaking, home decorating, and several other subjects, have been brought before the club. Several plays have been given by club members, reflecting much credit upon their dramatic ability. "Mrs. Briggs of the Poultry Yard," given at one time in Town Hall, is worthy of especial mention. The different departments connected with the club are: Arts and Crafts, Civics, Home Economics, Literary, and Music. Of these, the Home Economics, Literary, and Music have been very active. "The Pageant of Boston," written by and presented in Town Hall under the direction of Miss Jennie F. Copeland, of the Literary Department, brought forth widespread commendation. Artists from our town have been heard most favorably in music and readings, as well as public speakers from among our townspeople. Much good work has been accomplished in a charitable way, such as donations to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, to the Halifax fire sufferers, the Visiting Nurse Association, West Side Benevolent Society, the Children's Hospital, and Near East Relief. Much assistance was also given to the Red Cross at the time of the World War. Along the line of civic improvement, a public drinking fountain was installed in the South Common, shrubs were set out on the High School grounds and ivy planted along the walls of the High School building. Through the influence of the club, the Stamp Saving System was introduced in the public schools. Books have been given to



the Public Library, also a revolving reference bookrack and chair to be used with it, and a copy of that beautiful picture, "The Age of Innocence".

Through the efforts of members of the Home Economics Department, the girls of the public schools were given an opportunity of having a course in mothercraft. An outfit for this work was furnished by this department, and some of the club ladies spent several hours sewing for the life size baby doll used in this work. A class of forty girls graduated from this course. In 1907 the New Century Club became a member of the Massachusetts State Federation of Women's Clubs. For the last seven years, regular meetings with few exceptions have been held fortnightly Friday afternoons in the Tavern, the club year being from the first Friday in November to the first Friday in May, inclusive. There have been nineteen presidents. Miss Alletta F. Dean, who concluded her second year of service in that office at the annual meeting in May, is a native of Mansfield and graduated from the University of Wisconsin at the age of fifty years. All of these women have given of their time and effort, and with the co-operation of their fellow members, have made the New Century Club of Mansfield what it is today—one of the foremost women's organizations of the town. The officers in 1923: Mrs. Lena D. Tucker, president; Miss Ada E. Baldwin, Mrs. Mildred P. Parker, vice-presidents; Mrs. Harriett A. Hayward, corresponding secretary; Miss Idabel M. Duguid, clerk.

One of the largest Grand Army posts in the county in 1923 is the John Rogers Post, No. 170, with eighty-two veterans mustered in, whose average age is seventy-eight years. Henry C. Hamilton, a past commander of the post, says: Francis Drake and twenty-four others called a meeting of Grand Army veterans at Sons of Temperance Hall, the old Unitarian meetinghouse, not in existence now, July 31, 1884, when the post since known as John Rogers Post, No. 170, G. A. R., was formed. George K. Boney was chief mustering officer, and S. A. Cushing was inspector. The first officers were: Commander, Francis Drake; senior vice-commander, H. E. Sherman; junior vice-commander, George P. Chapin; surgeon, H. H. Fairbanks; chaplain, C. S. Rogers; officer of the day, J. W. Martin; officer of the guard, E. E. Cobb; adjutant, E. W. Sterns; quartermaster, V. F. Grover. The officers in 1923: Senior vice-commander, H. M. Lawton; junior vice-commander, H. E. Sherman; surgeon, George P. Chapin; chaplain, H. H. Fairbanks; officer of the day, C. F. Rogers; officer of the guard, J. W. Martin; adjutant, E. E. Cobb; quartermaster, E. W. Sterns; sentinel, V. F. Grover; quartermaster-sergeant, S. H. Witherell. These have been the commanders: Francis Drake, 1884-86; Henry H. Fairbanks, 1886; G. P. Chapin, 1887; John Smith, 1888; A. R. Collins, 1889; H. E. Sherman, 1890; A. W. Cobb, 1891; V. F. Grover, 1892; T. H. Milliken, 1893; J. N. Tibbetts, 1894; E. W. Stearns, 1895; C. T. Rogers, 1896; James B. Smith, 1897; Warren Howe, 1898; J. B. Sherrett, 1899; H. B. Reed, 1901-02; John Hannifem, 1903; Reuben Purdy, 1904; George A. Fiske, 1905; Henry C. Hamilton, 1906; Alfred Hicks, 1907; L. A. Lauriat, 1908; A. A. Briggs, 1909; W. L. Collins, 1910-11; M. L. Greene, 1912-13; Davis Cook, 1914-20; H. C. Blossom, 1921-23.

John Rogers Woman's Relief Corps, No. 61, was formed in 1887, by Mrs. Haynes Parker, with a charter membership of thirty-seven. The following-named have been the presidents: Miss Hattie Perry, 1887-88; Car-

rie A. Sibbells, 1889-90; Laura A. Paine, 1891-92; Ida Richards, 1893; Alzadia Fisher, 1894; Fannie Wills, 1895-96; Augusta Shepard, 1897-1901; Lena Hibbetts, 1902-05; Hester Chadwick, 1906-07; Emma Roberts, 1908; Marion J. Fiske, 1909; Lena Hibbetts, 1910-11; Fannie Robbins, 1912; Ida Richards, 1913-14; Mabel Briggs, 1915; Eliza Smith, 1916; Paulina Pierce, 1917-19; Marion J. Fiske, 1920; Marion Staples, 1921-22; Eva Conrad, 1923. The present membership of the corps is eighty-two.

Rara Avis Circle, No. 1905, Fraternal Order of Eagles, was instituted October 19, 1909, with fifty-one charter members. The number of members in 1923 was 79, and the officers: W. P., George Hayden; V. P., F. W. Walker; chaplain, J. McKillop; secretary, Edward H. Burt; treasurer, F. H. Hoare.

Mansfield Lodge, I. O. O. F. M. U., was instituted December 30, 1903, with twenty-three charter members. The leading officers in 1923: Noble grand, William George; vice-grand, Thomas Holden; permanent secretary, Frank H. Fisher; treasurer, John Davenport.

Mansfield Post No. 198, Commander Homer Stevens, represents the American Legion in this town.

Francis A. Chase Lodge, No. 89, K of P., was instituted June 12, 1891, with twenty-four charter members. Membership December 31, 1922, was 123. The officers for 1923: William A. Jameison, chancellor commander; Francis L. Streeter, vice-chancellor; Charles E. Brintnall, prelate; Archie D. Leonard, master of work; William J. White, keeper of records and seal; John H. Waggott, master of finance; L. Leslie Jones, master of exchequer; Frank T. Wills, master-at-arms; Edward F. Towne, inner guard; Melvin F. Saley, outer guard; Charles E. Brintnall, Rufus H. Ring, representatives to Grand Lodge.

Reliance Lodge, No. 72, Ancient Order of United Workmen, was instituted with twenty-four charter members, November 24, 1886. The present membership is sixty-four. The sum of \$44,000 has been paid to families of deceased members. The leading officers in 1923: P. M. W., Horace L. Bartlett; M. W., Harry A. Fisher; foreman, J. Herman Mees; overseer, Andrew D. Gallipeau; financier, Edmund H. Evans; treasurer, Alphonso Buck.

Mansfield Council, No. 240, Knights of Columbus, is one of the old lodges of the order in this section. William A. Curtin is grand knight; Walter Vallette recording secretary.

**Industries.**—The invested capital of the industries of Mansfield in 1923 was over \$4,000,000, and the combined annual production was valued at \$7,400,000. The first important step industrially taken by the town was in 1814, when the Mansfield North Cotton Manufacturing Company was established here; and then, in the middle of the nineteenth century, Gardner Chilson founded the Chilson Furnace, the stoves produced there being used everywhere in railroad cars. From 1860 to the late eighties there were basket-making, soap-making and straw-hat manufacturing establishments. Through the coöperation of the Mansfield News and William F. Davis, the Mansfield historian, an account of the leading industries of the town follows:

The Bay State Tap and Die Company, organized in 1903 by Hall, Lincoln & Williams for the manufacture of taps, dies, screw-plates and twist drills. The factory



on Chauncey street, near the railroad station, employs a large number of skilled workmen.

The chocolate works of the late Walter M. Lowney were erected in 1906, where the finest product in the chocolate trade are manufactured. Thousands of gallons of cream are used annually, and the plant employs a large number of men and women.

The Bay State Gold Pen Company began business in 1905 in the Bliss factory on Willow street, but as business increased the firm erected their present factory on East street. Gold pens are the product. Paul H. Johnston is president of the company.

From a hobby, gladiolus-growing has developed into an industry here that produces about \$75,000 annually in bulbs, and it is stated that no other town in New England has so many growers of the flower on so large a scale. Among the first to venture into the new field were Frank Fand, Frank O. Shepardson and Robert R. Walker, the latter the largest grower in the district, and secretary of the New England Society. William S. Harris has established an excellent business. Other large growers include Albert Lehan, also a dahlia specialist; Dr. B. M. Latham, Mrs. Elsie P. Tragard; Willis E. Chase, president of the local association; Joseph Bellavance and Fred S. Reed. The officers in 1923: President, Willis S. E. Chase; vice-president, Albert Lehan; secretary, Miss L. F. Howe; treasurer, Frank R. Sawyer.

One of Mansfield's leading agricultural industries is the production of cucumbers, the annual amount being 20,000 bushels, valued at \$150,000. The pioneer grower in this section was Benjamin D. Vickery, who started in 1898. Among the principal growers today are W. A. Staples, George Geddes, Frederick J. Dustin, W. F. Barnes, F. J. Evans and Company, F. S. and J. F. Geddes.

The Mansfield Foundry Company, Edward J. Morrow, manager, has grown rapidly since 1916, previous to which it was the Ryder Foundry. During 1922 and 1923, increasing business in gray iron and semi-steel castings demanded facilities for greater production, and the company has doubled its floor space by erecting a 90 x 129 annex, and installing upwards of \$25,000 unit of modern machinery. The officers in 1923: President, H. A. White; treasurer, E. A. Tutein.

The Mansfield Milling Company was established in 1910 as dealers in hay, grain and feed. In 1916 the entire plant was destroyed by fire, and a new and larger storehouse and elevator were erected. The officers of the company in 1923: President, Thomas Walker; treasurer, Daniel G. Joy.

The Mansfield Lumber Company, established in 1895 by A. H. Richardson and J. M. Tuttle, is one of the largest wholesale and retail dealers in lumber and builders' supplies in the county.

The Avery Japanning Company operates the only leather concern in Mansfield, the original company becoming established here in 1890 and being incorporated in 1917. The officers in 1923: President, L. C. Holway; vice-president, C. S. Harriman; treasurer, M. J. Lowry.

The Mansfield Bleachery was incorporated as a firm in 1909, in which year it started in a factory that had been a print works. A three-story brick building, 50 x 200 feet in dimensions, was erected in 1917, and in 1922 another three-story addition was erected, the plant then having a floor space of nearly two acres. The bleachery has a production weekly of 350,000 yards. The officers of the company: President, John F. Bannon; treasurer and general manager, William H. Bannon; secretary, Leo M. Bannon.

F. M. & J. L. Cobb are the only jewelry manufacturers in the town. The firm was originally Cobb & Evans Company, but Frank J. Evans sold his interest in the business, and Frank M. and Justin L. Cobb became partners.

Mansfield Machine Shops, manufacturers of patented machinery for rubber, textile, artificial leather, oil cloth, etc., have recently located in their new factory on School street. Sydney Birch is treasurer and manufacturer's agent, and his son, Philip S. Birch, is associated with him.

The Harding Manufacturing Company, for the manufacture of screw drivers and small tools, was established in 1913. The officers are: President, Mrs. Frances E. Harding; vice-president, Mrs. Mabel F. Barnes; secretary, Mr. Pickering.

Shield's Foundry Company was established in 1885, and is now owned and operated by George C. Shields, president; and Arthur E. Shields, treasurer. Iron castings for cooking and heating apparatus are the principal products.

The S. W. Card Manufacturing Company division of the United Twist Mill Company, was founded in 1874 by Simon W. Card under the name of S. W. Card & Company; and in 1894 the company was incorporated under the name of S. W. Card Manufacturing Company. In 1913 the Union Twist Drill Company of Athol, this State, purchased the entire stock of the corporation, and have since that time directed the management.

The Marion Straw Works is successor to the Comey & Rogers Company on Park street, manufacturing both straw and felt goods.

Charles A. Richardson operates a thoroughly modern plant at West Mansfield for the manufacture of shuttle irons and hardware specialties. Following a \$20,000 fire which totally destroyed the plant in 1920, Mr. Richardson built a new factory with all modern conveniences. The business was first established in 1881.

The basket industry of West Mansfield is an old industry that was started by Abner Bailey in 1793. The business is now conducted by Henry G. Sheppard.

The first mining for coal was done by Colonel Ephraim Leonard at East Mansfield, in 1736; and the first company organized for mining coal was the Mansfield Mining Company, in 1836, with the Scarboro, Phillipsburg and Portland Mining Company. A shaft was sunk to the depth of forty feet, but coal was not found of quality nor in sufficient quantities to encourage the stockholders. The agitation for mining coal here has been kept up intermittently, mining experts stating that excellent coal measures exist here. The Mansfield Coal and Grain Company was established in 1885 and incorporated in 1902.

---

## CHAPTER IX.

### NORTH ATTLEBORO

North Attleboro and Industry, also, are synonymous. For not only are some of the oldest jewelry manufacturing establishments in New England keeping up with the calls of progress in their domain of business; but it was in this section of the Attleboro country that the first worker in jewelry set up his shop and instilled new ideas of a very practical value into the community. And long before the advent of the enterprising Frenchman, the pioneer tavern-keeper and Indian fighter, John Woodcock, for whom one of the town's schools is named, became the first permanent settler, and made the King Philip War a startlingly real event in this section. All that has been related of Attleboro as regards the introduction of this town's history may be recounted with every emphasis due to present locality, for here the settlement was made. In substance, this history has pointed out the current events of the common township preceding the division of the town, in nearly all matters the story being the same up to the year 1897. At the time of the division, the estimated population of this town was 7100; the personal estate valuation was placed at \$796,395; the real estate valuation at \$2,584,495; and the acreage of the section was determined at 10,143 acres.

Here prevails the town system of government as from earliest days, the town clerks since the division having been Charles T. Guild and James E. Cheever, the latter having been appointed to that office in 1902; he had also been twenty-three years collector of taxes. Alfred E. Coddington was elected town treasurer in 1887, and he was succeeded by Arthur Parker, and he by Frank T. Westcott. North Attleboro, which also includes the villages of Falls Village, Adamsdale, New Boston and Old Town, has a population of about 10,000, and contains about nineteen square miles, seven and one half miles east and west, and three and one-half miles north and south. It is noted in



this part of the county for the attractiveness of its location, its wide streets, and general healthfulness. It owns its electric light and water plants, the light plant showing a profit from its annual use. It has excellent schools, churches of all denominations, new postoffice and bank buildings, and increasing industries. For the maintenance of its fire department, which in 1923 was not all motorized, \$25,000 was appropriated in 1923; for the support of the schools, \$109,815; for the support of the poor, \$20,000; for the maintenance of the police department, \$5,000.

The story of the famed "Angle Tree Stone" of this section is as follows: Commissioners were appointed in 1640 by Plymouth and Massachusetts colonies to run a boundary line between their land. They commenced near the shore at a rock called Bound Rock, in the middle of Accord Pond (so called on account of the agreement or accord of the commissioners made there), which is in the line between Scituate and Cohasset, intending to reach by a straight line the most northerly point of Plymouth Colony, on the easterly side of Rhode Island, but when they arrived within about three miles of that point they found that their course would carry them far to the south. Instead of rectifying the whole line they made an angle and took a new course so far to the north as to reach the true point. At this turn stood a large oak tree marked, which was called the "Angle Tree." A large stone monument has since been erected here by authority of the legislature, under the direction of Attleborough and Wrentham. On the north side is inscribed "Mass. Colony" and on the south side "Plymouth Colony."

**Schools.**—The account of the schools here runs along similarly with that of the system that prevailed throughout the township previous to the division. The North Attleboro Academy Association was formed in 1833, when Joseph Draper, Ira Richards, Benjamin I. Draper, H. N. Draper and Richard Robinson erected a building for the academy at the corner of the present Washington and Orne streets, on land purchased of Samuel Guild. The first principal of the school was Isaac Perkins. He was succeeded in 1843 by John C. Boram, his assistant being Henry F. Lane, who became the third principal in 1846. Rev. J. D. Pierce succeeded him in 1848 or 1849. Then came Henry Rice, who taught two years, when the existence of the academy was brought to a close as an academical institution. The high school building in this part of the town was completed and occupied in 1882, and in 1887 Francis E. Burnette was appointed first superintendent of schools here. He was succeeded by William H. Hobbs; then, in 1888, James W. Brehaut was superintendent.

Robert J. Fuller was appointed school superintendent in 1907, succeeding J. W. Brehaut, who had occupied that position nine years. The appropriation for schools at that time was \$32,200. The estimated value of the school property in 1910 was 146,670. The new schoolhouse on Bank street, the John Woodcock school, was completed, an appropriation of \$30,000 having been made therefor. That year an independent industrial school was established in connection with evening school work. New interest was revived in the High School Alumni Association in 1911. The school appropriation in 1912 was \$50,500. In 1914 there were 1,650 pupils distributed among the eleven schools in the town; fifty-two regular and four special teachers were employed. More than \$60,000 was now required for school maintenance. A school nurse was first employed in 1916. In 1917 and during the World War, the schools

here were placed in a position to do whatever was asked of them by the various governmental agencies, such as the work of the children in the garden, nearly thirty acres of land being cultivated and under the direction of the supervisor. The high school building burned May 28, 1917, thirty-six years after its construction, with a loss of \$3,500. Badarasco Hall and building were occupied until other arrangements were made.

In 1918 G. W. Morris, superintendent of schools at Cumberland, Rhode Island, succeeded Superintendent Fuller, the latter having built up a progressive and systematic school organization. The Junior Red Cross was started in about all the schools, and many practical articles were made by the pupils. Victory Girls and Victory Boys were organized, and war savings and United War campaigns were started. The penny savings system was being conducted in the schools by the Kalmia Club, and the schools were managing demonstration gardens. The new high school building was completed November 12, 1919. That year the maximum salaries of grade teachers were increased from \$750 to \$850. The New Boston school was reopened, it having been closed in 1917 on account of small attendance. Principal Mansur, of the high school, resigned to accept the principalship of the Walpole High School. Fred H. Kierstead was appointed the new principal here, and the high school building was opened for evening schools. That year the continuation school was first projected here, and the J. D. Pierce school was conducted as a junior high school. In 1920 the appropriation for schools was \$103,361. A special class for retarded pupils was opened in the J. D. Pierce School, with fifteen pupils. Mr. Kierstead was succeeded as principal at the high school by Ralph R. Barr, acting principal. In 1921 Arthur J. Mott was appointed principal of the high school. The enrollment of pupils in 1922 was nearly 2,000. The Barrows lot, in the rear of the high school, was utilized as a playground. The various school-houses were built as follows: J. D. Pierce School, 1900; Bank Street School, about 1850; Park Street School, about 1850; School Street School, 1884 or 1885; Towne Street School, about 1850; Mount Hope School, 1893.

The Teachers' Association of North Attleboro was formed in 1919, the purpose being sociability and general advancement for the teachers of this town. Since that time regular meetings have been held, and with musicales and lectures the association has annually maintained an interesting course of entertainment. The number of members who joined the association in 1919 was forty-five, and Miss Grace M. Grant was elected president and Miss Alice Hall secretary. Miss Cora F. McCambridge was elected president in 1922. Miss Marjorie Barber is the secretary; Miss Hester Adams, treasurer. There is also a high school alumni association, and there are three parent-teachers associations.

**Churches.**—The Congregational policy prevailing in this section, provision was made in the earliest days for a central gathering-place and the minister for the settlers. The inhabitants of the place were so few in numbers at first that no means of support could be provided, but in 1706, his house being built for a minister, calls were given Revs. Mr. Fiske, More, Wiswell, Hunt, Fisher and Devotion, but no settled pastor answered the call until, in 1710, Rev. Ebenezer White came and remained for nearly a year. Eventually Rev. Matthew Short, a Harvard graduate and son of Henry Short of Newbury, accepted the pastoral invitation and was ordained November 12, 1712. He remained here until May 31, 1715, trouble relating to his salary resulting in his dismissal. He removed to Easton and became the first settled min-



ister there. The first meeting house in Attleboro was built in 1710, near the house of Christopher Hall, but it was not completed until 1714. Rev. Ebenezer White came here as the second minister, July 18, 1715. He also was a Harvard graduate, and son of James White, of Dorchester. He died while in the Attleboro ministry, September 4, 1726. Rev. Habijah Weld, a native of Dunstable, this State, was ordained pastor of the First Church and congregation, October 1, 1727. He died May 4, 1782, in the eightieth year of his age and the fifty-fifth of his ministry. The town built a new meeting house in 1728. The town constituted one parish until April 7, 1743, when it was divided into the first or west and the second or east precinct. In 1737 the ministerial house and lands were sold. For nearly eight years after the death of Mr. Weld, the first precinct had no settled pastor, and meantime a dozen or so ministers were supplying the pulpit.

Rev. John Wilder answered the call to become the settled minister on January 4, 1790. He was born in Templeton, Connecticut, March 12, 1758, and was a graduate of Dartmouth College. He remained in this parish as its minister until November 28, 1822, and died February 12, 1836. Then followed Rev. Thomas Williams, formerly of Connecticut, who was installed September 29, 1824, terminating his ministry here December 11, 1827. He was succeeded by Rev. Charles J. Warren, who was ordained February 28, 1828, and was dismissed July 9, 1830; he died in New York in 1883, at the age of eighty-six years. Rev. Mr. Chapin was his successor as pastor from 1830 to 1833. Rev. Samuel Colburn was the next minister, and Rev. Mr. Ober succeeded him in 1837. Rev. John M. B. Bailey came here as pastor, and was ordained here December 30, 1840; he died February 24, 1851. He prepared the address for the consecration of Mount Hope Cemetery. Rev. S. B. Morley was ordained here July 9, 1851, and remained as pastor until March 25, 1857. The pulpit was supplied by Rev. B. C. Chase from August 23, 1857, to December 25, 1862; and by Rev. David Breed from March 1, 1863, to March 1, 1866. Rev. H. P. De Forest was pastor from January, 1867, to January, 1869. Rev. John Whitehill began his pastorate here March 28, 1869; he was born in Scotland, but was a graduate from Amherst College and Andover Theological Seminary. Rev. Thomas W. Harwood came here as pastor in 1922. The third meeting house of this society was dedicated January 1, 1829.

The Central Congregational Church had its beginnings in a Sunday school that was established in March, 1866, with Welcome Aldrich as superintendent. The first pastor was Rev. George H. Tilton, graduate of Amherst College and Andover Theological Seminary, who came here January 4, 1874, and resigned in May, 1875, when the new church building was completed. A Congregational church was formed March 19, 1874, known as the Central Congregational Church of Attleboro. The cornerstone of the new church was laid June 16, 1874, and on May 5, 1875, the church was dedicated. The pastors of this church in succession have been Revs. Geo. H. Tilton, 1874-75; Francis E. Marston, 1875-77; F. D. Kelsey, 1877-79; Geo. O. Jenness, 1880-87; Walter P. Taylor, 1888—; E. C. Winslow, 1891-93; J. H. McLaren, 1893-96; M. L. Williston, 1897-99; Zenas Crowell, 1900-13; G. A. Sheradan, 1913-15; E. E. Craig, 1915—.

The North Baptist Church originated in a separative group from the Congregationalists about the year 1747. The New Lights, or Separatists, differing from the Congregational order, on January 20, 1747, ordained Nathaniel

Shepard as their pastor. He was a native of Norton, where he was born February 13, 1713, and he remained pastor of this new church until his death, April 14, 1752. In 1769 the church thus formed changed its constitution by vote from a Congregational to a Baptist church. In 1771 the church joined the Warren Association, and in 1837 the Taunton Association. After the death of Mr. Shepard came occasional preachers. Elder Job Seamens was ordained December 15, 1773, and in 1787, at his own request, he received his dismissal. The church was then supplied by Rev. William Williams for awhile. Then came Elder Abner Lewis in November, 1789, who remained to September, 1795, Laban Thurber preaching here until 1797. Elder James Read was installed as pastor on August 18, 1801, and continued in the ministry in Attleboro until his death, October 21, 1814. Various pastors followed: Rev. Stephen S. Nelson, April 28, 1815, to May, 1820; Rev. Jonathan Wilson, 1821; Rev. Silas Hall, 1823-27; Rev. William Phillips, February, 1827, to 1829; Rev. Jonathan E. Forbush, 1832-36; Rev. Silas Hall, 1837-39; Rev. Reuben Mowry, 1839 to May, 1847; Rev. N. G. Lovell, 1847 to June, 1851; Rev. William H. Alden, September 1, 1852, to April 26, 1856; Rev. G. F. Warren, October 1, 1857, to October, 1860; Rev. J. F. Ashley, 1860-62 (he was captain of Company I in the Civil War); Rev. Abijah Hall, October 19, 1862, to December, 1865; Rev. George Cooper, October, 1866, to December, 1869; Rev. Lyman Chase, 1871-72; Rev. William Fitz, 1872-73; Rev. Samuel T. Frost, April, 1874, to July 1, 1875; Rev. W. H. Kling, December 22, 1875, to 1881; Rev. F. H. Towle, 1883-86; Rev. Charles H. Wheeler, 1886-92; Rev. Samuel Knowles, June, 1892, to October, 1896; Rev. R. Ward Fisher, May, 1897, to October, 1898; Rev. William A. Farren, April, 1899 to June, 1916; Rev. A. J. Hutchins, October, 1916, to February, 1920; Rev. Wesley G. Huber, July, 1920—. The first meeting house of this parish was completed in 1784, and the next was built in 1817. The following-named former members of this church went into the ministry or other religious work: Revs. George Robinson, Timothy C. Tingley, John S. White, George Cargill, Eugene Thomas, William A. Stanley, Frank O. Cowell, Howard A. Welch; J. N. Cushing (a missionary in Burma); Henry C. Barden, general secretary of the Y. M. C. A. in Slovakia. The membership of the church in 1923 was 228.

The first service of the Episcopal church was held in North Attleboro in September, 1858, by Rev. Julius S. Townsend, from Trinity Church, Pawtucket, at the instance of Joseph A. Allen, a grocer; and subsequent services were held at Union Hall, that occupied the site of the present Emerson House. At about the same time, services were started at East Attleboro, and Rev. Mr. Townsend came there to live. It was on March 30 that a parish was organized under the name of Grace Church, the name being proposed by Abiel Lincoln, and thirty-two persons were elected members. Mr. Townsend resigned in April, 1860, owing to ill health, Rev. Edward Cowley taking charge of both missions in June that year. Soon after he took charge, the place for service was transferred to the Towne street school house, at the Falls; but Mr. Cowley resigned after a year. During the Civil War but few services were held, and by lay readers, some at the old "Braid Mill." In 1864 S. H. Webb, afterward rector for many years at Christ Church, Providence, acted as lay reader for a few months at East Attleboro and the Falls. In June of that year, Rev. A. C. Patterson, a district missionary, residing at Jamaica Plain, held services at Odd Fellows Hall, on Orne street, for a year. During that time the present church lot was purchased for \$800. In May, 1871, another effort was made to estab-



lish regular services, these being held at the residence of W. D. Whiting and in the Free Evangelical Church. In July, 1871, Rev. John S. Beers, a very energetic man, was called to be rector of the parish, and on October 17 ground was broken for the new church building. The cornerstone of the church was laid June 14, 1872; the church was opened for services March 12, 1873, and was consecrated June 18, 1873. The rectory was completed June 7 of that year. At the time that Mr. Beers resigned, September 17, 1876, there were fifty communicants. Rev. Frederick A. Fiske became the rector September 24 of that year; and in the spring of 1878 he had raised nearly money enough to pay half the indebtedness of \$4,824. Upon the death of Mr. Fiske, December 15, Rev. George R. Wheelock became rector, September 1, 1879, resigning in September, 1880, and that year an organ fund was started. January 23, 1881, Rev. George E. Osgood began his work, which has continued to the present day. The organ was installed in the church in 1882, and in 1887 the parish debt was paid. The parish house was completed in March, 1892, and on Easter Day, 1893, the indebtedness thereon was paid. In 1895 and 1897 repairs and improvements were made; in 1903 the stained glass window was placed in the chancel, and the cost of all met without delay.

The first meeting of persons interested in a Universalist church was held at Samuel Newell's Inn, at Oldtown, August 17, 1816, and in the fall of that year a voluntary society was organized at the homes alternately of Messrs. Newell, Barrows and Captain Benjamin Bolckom. Rev. Richard Carrique was employed as "religious instructor" in 1817. In January, 1818, decision was reached to build a meeting house forty feet wide and fifty-one feet long, with fifty-four floor square pews and six gallery pews, the gallery to be at the east end of "meeting house." Incorporation as a legal Universalist society took place February 19, 1818, and the first delegate to the Universalist convention was sent September 15 that year. The first meeting house was dedicated December 29, 1818, Rev. Hosea Ballou preaching the dedicatory sermon to a crowded house. The second house of worship was built on the site of the present church in 1841, the dedicatory sermon being given by Rev. William S. Balch, of Providence, November 3, 1841. The first church organ was installed September, 1849, and cost \$475; the second organ was installed in June, 1872; the third organ, a gift from G. K. Webster, December, 1917. The Sunday school held meetings prior to 1875, but was not completely organized until that year. F. G. Pate, one of the most active men in the history of this church, was elected a member of the parish in 1866. The list of the pastors of the church: Richard Carrique, 1817-22; Robert L. Killam, 1822-28; no record of the pastor from 1828 to 1841; Benjamin Hill Davis, 1841-45; Joseph Dexter Pierce, 1845-46; no record of the pastor from 1846 to 1848; Joseph Selman Davis, 1848-52; no pastoral record from 1852 to 1855; Joseph Dexter Pierce, 1855-80; J. S. Cantwell, 1881-84; William Frank Potter, 1884-89; F. A. Dillingham, 1890-96; F. L. Masseck, 1897-1902; R. E. Conner, 1902-08; Hazen Conklin, 1909-10; Carl F. Henry, 1911-15; H. Edward Latham, October 1, 1916—.

Services were held by the Methodists in North Attleboro soon after 1830. The first building they owned was bought of the Universalists, and removed from Old Town and placed on the lot now occupied by the Manufacturers' Bank. This church was afterwards removed, and later destroyed by fire. The first Methodist minister stationed in North Attleboro was Rev. Jonathan Cady, who was appointed here in 1840 and 1841, and he was succeeded by Rev.

George W. Brewster, who received his appointment in 1842. In 1844 occurred the division in the Methodist church on the question of slavery, and during this agitation the Methodist church of North Attleboro left the regular order and became Wesleyan Methodist; a little later the church was dissolved and its membership united with other churches. The Free Evangelical Church, whose church building is now occupied by the Methodists, was organized April 30, 1858, and installed its first pastor, Rev. Cyrus Cunningham, March 30, 1859. The "White Church," so called, was started in 1867, and was completed and dedicated February 24, 1870. The Free Evangelical Church, under various pastors, continued worshipping in the new building until 1904. On March 11, 1904, at a meeting of the church, a resolution was passed to ask admission to the Methodist denomination, and the First Methodist Episcopal Church of North Attleboro was organized by Rev. A. J. Coultas, D. D., then presiding elder of the Providence district of the New England Southern Conference. Rev. John Wesley Annas was appointed first pastor of the new church, March 24, 1904. The following named have been the pastors in succession: Revs. Eben Tirrell, 1907-09; Edward Phreaner, 1910-11; Rev. William H. Allen, 1912-17; John McVay, 1918-19; Charles H. Van Natter, 1919-20; Rev. Amos M. Bruce, 1920—.

Catholics were here before 1850, but the first church organized for their religious needs, like that at Taunton and Fall River, was called St. Mary's. Rev. Father Joseph McNamee, of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, was the first pastor, who came here to organize the church in 1850. By means of subscription a sufficient amount of money was raised to buy a lot of land on the main road between the Falls and North Attleboro. During these early days, masses were celebrated in homes of the communicants and in Barden's Hall. Upon the death of Rev. Father McNamee, in 1852, Rev. Patrick G. Delaney served as the priest of the St. Mary's parish up to 1854. Rev. Father Philip Gillick succeeded Father Delaney, and considerable progress resulted from his efforts. In 1857 the first church for this parish was built on the lot that had been purchased in 1850, a plain building, but answering every need of the new parish. Father Gillick proved one of the most active of the Catholic pioneer priests in this region, for not only did he take charge of the struggling parish of St. Mary's here, building the rectory also, close to the church, but he built or purchased churches in Franklin, Wrentham, Walpole, Foxboro and Mansfield. His assistants here and among other parishes at this time were Rev. Fathers Conaty, Foley and Ryan. Rev. Father Gillick, advanced in years, resigned his work here in February, 1874, and removed to New York, where he died on May 10, 1874.

Rev. Father Edward J. Mongan was his successor, and among his assistants were Rev. Fathers James F. Clark, Bernard Boylan, George McManus, Patrick Kiernan, Andrew Brady, P. F. Doyle and John T. Lynch. In 1877 Rev. Father Mongan purchased the Tifft property, on Washington street, for \$20,000, occupying the house as the rectory, and remodelling the stone barn for a church. The cornerstone of the present building was laid in the spring of 1890, Rev. Father Mongan completing the frame of the church, and Rev. Fathers McCarthy, Burns, Hurley, and Cassidy continuing the work thus begun. The church was dedicated December 8, 1900. Rev. Father McGee came here as the pastor in 1911, and the cornerstone of the new parochial school was laid in the spring of 1923.

Sacred Heart Parish was formed in 1904 by Rt. Rev. William Stang, D. D.,



and the church was built in 1909. The cornerstone of the parochial school was laid in 1923. Rev. Fathers Vallandre and Duquoy have been the pastors. Sisters of the Union of Sacred Hearts have charge of the 251 pupils in the schools.

**Public Utilities.**—The North Attleboro Board of Trade was organized in January, 1910, the enterprise having been introduced here by William C. Hobbs, a local lawyer, who had been connected with the Norwood Board of Trade. Mr. Hobbs was elected the first president; Charles O. Mason, vice-president; Arthur T. Parker, secretary; Frank T. Westcott, treasurer. Starting out with a membership of fifty, it now has over 200. Mr. Hobbs was president for three terms; he was succeeded by William H. Bell for three years; then by Dr. Joseph B. Gerould and Robert J. Fuller; then by Albert G. Prise, with Carl A. Hempel as vice-president, Frank J. Kelley secretary, and Arthur A. Weller treasurer. The board has been successful in bringing many new industries to the town. Through its efforts, the Elm street loop for the branch line to Attleboro was made possible; granolithic walks were laid at the railroad station; the school garden project was forwarded; the ball grounds were renovated; municipal Christmas tree was brought to a successful issue; the "North Attleboro Book" was published; the Chautauqua was established. "Purpose, progress and prosperity" is the slogan of this board.

The North Attleboro Gaslight Company was organized in 1855, the territory now covered by the mains including all parts of the North Town, Plainville and the Falls. H. F. Barrows is president of the company. Here also is one of the best sewer systems in New England, the main system having been completed in 1910. The disposal plant of the system covers an area of about eight acres, where the method of filtration in sand is carried out. The North Attleboro Water Company was incorporated May 16, 1883, the charter being secured by Henry F. Barrows, Handel N. Daggett and Joseph Barden, and the transfer of the water company was made to the North Attleboro Fire District, June 17, 1883. The cost of the original water works, including the reservoir on Watery Hill, 565,000 gallons, was \$11,790. The water system was extended to the Falls Village in the latter part of 1892, and to Old Town in 1904. A pumping engine of 2,500,000 gallons capacity per twenty-four hours was installed in 1912, at a cost of \$20,000.

The North Attleboro Improvement District was formed in 1875, the management of which was in the hands of a prudential committee, the purpose being for greater and better improvements other than could be obtained by town appropriations for street lighting and sidewalks. The North Attleboro Steam and Electric Company was formed in 1886. The town is now furnished with electricity in unlimited quantities. Four electric car lines run through the streets, two of which connect with Attleboro; one gives service to Pawtucket and Providence, and the fourth connects with Plainville, Wrentham, Franklin and Woonsocket. Electric express service is had with Attleboro and Providence. Telephone service is from the exchange operated by the Providence Telephone Company, associated with the Universal Bell System.

The postoffice in North Attleboro is one of the most attractive federal buildings of any township in this part of the State, it having first been occupied in 1917. Former postoffice locations in this town have been in the Emerson House, at the corner of Washington and Elm streets; at the Riley building, corner of Washington street and Mason avenue; and finally at the Federal building at the corner of Washington street and Bruce avenue. The post-

master appointed April 18, 1923, was Mrs. Elizabeth B. Flint, the first woman postmaster in a first-class office in New England, and one of three such in the entire United States. Mrs. Flint was chairman of the War Savings Stamps Committee during the drive for the month of June, 1918, and won cup and pennant for selling the largest amount of war savings stamps in the district during that period. The total amount of sales of the two kinds of savings stamps for war purposes at this postoffice in 1917 and 1918 was \$77,596.81. The postmasters during and from the division of the towns have been as follows: G. Eugene Fisher, 1894-98; F. B. Byram, 1898-1902; H. D. Hunt, April, 1902, to October, 1913; Albert Totten (acting postmaster), October 4, 1913, to May 15, 1914; Thomas L. Coady, May 15, 1914, to April 18, 1923; Elizabeth B. Flint, April 18, 1923. The postoffice at Falls Village was established in 1871, with Joseph F. Freeman as postmaster.

The first North Attleboro newspaper undoubtedly was the "Bulletin," the first issue of which was on May 16, 1857. William H. Berry was the editor, and the publication came out every Saturday. Later J. M. Stewart was editor and finally the paper became the "Bristol County News," with Robert Sherman, of Pawtucket, as editor.

The first move toward the starting of "The Chronicle" was in November, 1871, and was the idea of Walter Phillips, a Providence newspaper man, who married Francena Capron, daughter of Virgil Capron, of this town. During the latter part of December and in January of the next year Mr. Phillips made a personal canvass and secured subscriptions totalling \$1,900. The first paper was issued on February 3, 1872, the type being set in a little office near Ryder's Hotel, now Park Street Hotel, Attleboro, and the forms run off in Providence. Upon the completion of Kendall's block "The Chronicle" moved to North Attleboro, adding a new press and other equipment. Edward Quinn became the foreman. On August 24 the firm became Phillips & Dunbar. The junior member was Eugene K. Dunbar, who had graduated from Brown University with honors. In January, 1873, Mr. Phillips, who was to become later general manager of the United Press of America, sold the business to Messrs. Dunbar and Quinn for \$5,000. Six months later Mr. Dunbar became the sole owner with Eliot Hunt as local editor and assistant manager.

On March 3, 1877, Mr. Dunbar disposed of the paper to F. B. Greene, of Providence, son of Prof. Greene, of Brown University; Eliot Hunt, of Attleboro, and Edwin A. Coddling, of North Attleboro. The new firm organized as F. B. Greene & Co. Two years later Mr. Hunt purchased the interest of Mr. Greene and the firm became Eliot Hunt & Co. The business prospered, but at the expense of the health of the senior proprietor, who in 1881 was obliged to secure as assistant Edgar Perry, also a graduate of Brown. Mr. Hunt's quest of health was in vain, and he died on September 8, 1883. The administrators of his estate sold his three-fourths interest to Mr. Perry, who in turn sold a quarter to William H. Barnes, a former foreman, and who then was conducting a job printing office in the Odd Fellows building. The two places were consolidated, and on January 1, 1884, "The Chronicle" publishers became Perry, Barnes & Co. On July 14, 1886, Mr. Barnes bought the interest of Mr. Coddling and became an equal partner in the firm of Perry & Barnes. In 1888 Mr. Barnes became the sole owner, with Burrill Porter, Jr., as editor. "The Chronicle" became a semi weekly in 1884 and a daily newspaper on November 17, 1890.

When Mr. Barnes retired from "The Chronicle" he sold the newspaper



to Harry D. Hunt. In December, 1908, the concern was taken over by the present owners, the North Attleboro Chronicle Co., with Joseph W. Martin, Jr., as manager and editor. In addition to publishing the "Evening Chronicle," the owners conduct a high grade and prosperous job printing plant.

Miss Ada M. Perry, librarian of the Richards Memorial Library, tells the story of that institution, thus:

The Richards Memorial Library is the result of the steady growth of many years, and the untiring interest and inspiration of many townspeople. The library had its beginnings in the early seventies, as the outgrowth of a Lyceum Association, and it was for several years supported by private subscription, at length becoming a necessity to the town's progress. The Union Improvement District having been organized about that time, and having proved its capacity for progressive work, the library was put under its care, and was successfully carried on by that association until 1887. In that year the town was divided, and the library, enlarged and improved, was transferred, with other properties, to North Attleboro, the town assuming the care and expense of conducting a reading room in connection with the library. Miss Irene W. Day was the first librarian, and her term of office extended over a period of years. In the spring of 1884 the children of Edmund, Ira and Lucy Edwards offered to present the town with a memorial library building. The offer was accepted, and a lot in the center of the town was purchased.

The building is of brick, with cream-colored terracotta trimmings, and the cost was about \$60,000. It contains a beautiful and inviting reading room, with a library of reference books on open shelves, and is equipped with the best current magazines and newspapers. It has a librarian's room with steel stacks, capable of shelving about 18,000 books. On September 14, 1895, the new Richards Memorial Library was fittingly dedicated, the orator of the day being Hon. John D. Long; and on September 20 the building was opened for the distribution of books. On January 2, 1900, Miss I. W. Day, after ten and one-half years of faithful and efficient service, during which time the library had advanced from a small beginning to a well-kept and growing institution, resigned her position, to be married to one of the prominent townsmen, and her place was taken by Miss Leda J. Thompson. Miss Thompson's service at the library was one of rare efficiency, and the memory of her seven and one-half years of work is bright in the minds of the townspeople. She resigned to accept another position, and Miss Ada Perry was chosen for the position. For the space of sixteen years the institution has increased in value to the town. There are now eighteen thousand books, which is the capacity of the stack-room, and ninety-five hundred borrowers are registered on the books. The present trustees are as follows: Rev. George E. Osgood, chairman of the board; Dr. Joseph B. Gerould, Mauran I. Furbish, Donald Le Stage, Mrs. C. W. Fisher. It is the policy of the board to make the library of use to all the departments of the town's affairs.

The Attleboro Savings Bank received its charter February 2, 1860, the incorporators being H. M. Richards, S. Bowen, E. Ira Richards, Josiah D. Richards, George Morse. Ezekiel Bates was the first president, who held office until 1870, the deposits at that time being \$76,000. Henry Rice served as president from 1870 to 1872, and was succeeded by Abiel Coddington, who presided until 1900. In 1900 George A. Dean served as president for two months, and was succeeded by Albert Totten, the president in 1923. In the course of seventeen years, the deposits showed an increase of 150 per cent. While the bank was established for the benefit of local people, its reputation has spread until deposits come to it from all parts of the State, and beyond. Mr. Totten takes pride in the bank's advancement, and spares no pains or effort to forward its interests. During 1923 the building, erected in 1903, was rebuilt and further modernized. The vice-presidents are George W. Cheever and Mark E. Rowe.

The Manufacturers' National Bank, which in 1923 removed from the formerly well known landmark to its new spacious and modern building, was organized in March, 1908, to conduct a general commercial banking business, its officers

from the first being among the best known conservative business men in the community. The officers: President, Frederic E. Sturdy; cashier, Clifton W. Carpenter; directors: F. E. Sturdy, G. K. Webster, C. A. Whiting, G. W. Cheever, J. F. Mason, J. L. Thompson, C. E. Riley, F. L. Baker, W. B. Ballou.

**Clubs, etc.**—The North Attleboro Kalmia Club dates its organization from its first meeting, January 14, 1895, when twenty-seven women gathered to form a woman's club. The committee chosen to present a constitution and by-laws gave the organization a guide that, with very few changes due to the growth of the club, have stood the test of twenty-five years. The name "Kalmia" was chosen, and the letter "K," surrounded by a laurel wreath, with a manuscript half-unrolled about its stem, became the insignia, and the club colors chosen were green and gold. As stated in the constitution, the club's object is to promote general intelligence, culture and sociability, and to further the charitable and educational effort of the town. The first work in this direction was that of improving conditions in school buildings, and photographs, suitably framed, were presented to the different schoolrooms. This work was followed with the clearing up and grading of unsightly schoolyards, and the planting of flowers and shrubs, that has been fully appreciated. Through the influence of the Kalmia, in 1904 a Village Improvement Society was founded, and much good was accomplished thereby. The next step was the formation of a woman's auxiliary to the local Y. M. C. L. In 1908 the Kalmia established the Penny Savings in the public schools, with Mrs. E. G. Flint as financial secretary, a position she has held ever since, as this branch of work has never been turned over to the town.

A district nursing committee was organized November 20, 1911, under the auspices of the Kalmia—a most successful venture; but the work of the visiting nurse so increased and became of such importance that in 1918 it was decided that a regular nurse association should be incorporated. The club still continues its personal and financial interest therein. During the World War the club was actively engaged in Red Cross and other activities that still continue. As the Kalmia is the only organization of its kind in North Attleboro, it is looked to for assistance in every good work, and has always responded generously to the many calls for money outside its own town, and therefore its influence and help have become widespread. As a group, in common with most thinking people, the club is thinking in larger units, and adding its contribution to the world's work. In its musical and literary programme the progress of the Kalmia has been steadily onward. The number of charter members was forty. In 1923 the membership was one hundred and forty, with a waiting list. The officers at that time: President, Mrs. E. Foster Clark; vice-president, Mrs. Harold Mason; recording secretary, Mrs. C. Ray Ranall; treasurer, Mrs. John L. Thompson; lecture committee: Mrs. George A. Chisholm, Mrs. George H. Bessette, Mrs. Charles S. Peckham; auxiliary committees: Americanization, Mrs. George L. Rhodes; Conservation, Mrs. George Cotton; Legislative, Mrs. Elmer E. Rockwood; Literature, Miss Ada Perry; Music, Mrs. Harry Fisher; Penny Savings, Mrs. Edmund G. Flint; Public Health, Mrs. Clarence A. Stirper.

The North Attleboro Y. M. C. A. serves the progressive Christian, social and athletic interests of the young men of this section, with live committees and officials to open the route to enlarging fields of practical usefulness. With a membership of 529 in 1923, and with a general secretary who is leaving nothing undone to promote a programme of health and wholesome living in the com-



munity, the association has its lasting place here and an outlook for even better things to come. In every movement for the public good the "Y" has been at the forefront; and particularly during the World War it was second to none other in sharing its membership and their talents and patriotism with all other societies in drives and enlistments. Secretary Ernest Priestley is making a specialty of worth-while athletics, and he has done so from the time that he came here to take charge, in 1919. It is generally known that Richards, of English Channel swimming fame; Jedlinski, the well-known wrestler; Fulton, of long-distance running fame, and many real star baseball players, are products of the North Attleboro Y. M. C. A. Since Secretary Priestley has been here, he has been the means of putting five athletic actors in circus and in tours. The building occupied by the "Y" is the Memorial Hall, erected by the Woman's Relief Corps in 1895, which building in 1906 was turned over to the town fathers, and then was leased by a number of local men and called the Y. M. C. L. The records of this organization are not to be had.

In 1910 the building was first called a Y. M. C. A., and the North Attleboro Y. M. C. A. was incorporated in 1912. The following-named have been presidents of the "Y": R. J. Fuller, Dr. J. B. Gerould, O. L. Welch, S. Straker, J. L. Tweedy, Dr. F. J. Carley. The secretaries to date have been: J. A. Milligan, J. A. Smith, E. C. Lord (pro tem.), C. A. Hempel, Ernest Priestley. Physical directors: M. Anderson, M. Cate, J. McKinstry, E. Cottrell, E. C. Lord, R. Wheat, Ernest Priestley.

The North Attleboro Chapter of the American Red Cross was organized on June 22, 1917, and had within its jurisdiction the towns of Mansfield, Foxboro and Wrentham. The officers were as follows: Chairman, Mr. Charles T. Paye; vice-chairman, Mr. W. H. Bell; secretary, Mrs. Edmund G. Flint; treasurer, Mr. George E. Lincoln. Executive board: Mrs. Alton Riley, Mrs. E. I. Franklin, Mrs. J. E. Tweedy, Mrs. Ernest Tellier, Mrs. Sylvester McGinn, Dr. J. B. Gerould, Mr. Andrew Morris, Mr. J. L. Thompson, Mr. F. S. Grigor, Mr. E. B. Fisher, Mr. J. T. Conefy. On December 4, 1917, Mr. F. S. Grigor, chairman of the Junior Red Cross, announced that the Junior Red Cross was organized in all the schools. During 1917 and 1918 over \$17,000 was raised by the Red Cross to carry on the work called for in its charter. The town of North Attleboro sent 456 soldiers, and fourteen of this number died in active service.

Prentiss M. Whiting Post, No. 192, G. A. R., was organized Thursday, July 28, 1888, by Austin C. Wellington, department inspector, and Joseph B. Parsons, chief mustering officer. The charter list comprised fifty-seven names. Prentiss M. Whiting, whose name this post bears, was a townsman of North Attleboro; he was a member of Company I, Seventh Massachusetts Infantry, was promoted to captain of Company A, and fell mortally wounded at the battle of Salem Heights, May 3, 1863. The past commanders of the post have been as follows: Samuel H. Bugbee, 1888-90; Oliver L. Swift, 1891; Charles T. Guild, 1892; Thomas G. Sandland, 1893-95; Edwin Whitney, 1896-97; Osmyn Atwood, 1898-99; John F. Makinson, 1900-01; Joseph H. Cheetham, 1902-03; John F. Makinson, 1904-06; Joseph H. Cheetham, 1907-08; Stephen Stanley, 1909-23. Connected with the Post is a Woman's Relief Corps.

The Newell-Blais Post, No. 443, Veterans of Foreign Wars, was started in February, 1919, with John W. Brown as commander; John D. McCann was commander in 1921; Ernest Blick in 1922; John D. Brown in 1923.

The Auxiliary of Newell-Blais Post, No. 443, Veterans of Foreign Wars, was formed December 10, 1920. On January 31, 1921, Deputy Mary L. White, assisted by President Maude Candalet and other members of the Gilbert-Perry Auxiliary, No. 115, of Attleboro, installed the following-named officers: President, Mrs. Sadie E. Blake; S. V. P., Mrs. Delia Herlin; J. V. C., Miss Leslie Brown; secretary, Miss Blanche L. Barber; treasurer, Mrs. Anna McEnaney; conductor, Mrs. Mary McCann. The Auxiliary started with twenty charter members. Mrs. Sadie E. Blake held the president's chair in 1921 and 1922; Mrs. Marion L. Cheney was president in 1923, and Mrs. Sadie E. Blake was secretary. Meetings are held in G. A. R. Hall, and there were forty-five members in 1923.

An American Legion Post and Auxiliary were formed here in 1921.

**Fraternal Societies.**—Bristol Lodge, A. F. and A. M., is one of the oldest in the State, it having been instituted in 1797. Its charter, signed by Paul Revere, is still preserved and is in good condition. The lodge meetings are held in I. O. O. F. Hall, and the membership is 365. The officers in 1923: Henry B. Cornell, worshipful master; John A. Clarner, senior warden; William H. Heckman, junior warden; Harry E. Litchfield, treasurer; George E. Hawes, secretary; Rev. George E. Osgood, chaplain; George A. Livingston, marshal; David Sinclair, senior deacon; Lee R. Higgins, junior deacon; A. Victor R. Chevers, senior steward; John Paton, junior steward; Frank H. Morris, organist; Frank Batchelder, inside sentinel; William A. Guild, tyler.

Rabboni Royal Arch Chapter was instituted March 7, 1911, with forty-four members on the charter list. The membership in 1923 was 185, and the officers were: Henry H. Curtis, excellent high priest; Henry B. Cornell, excellent king; John A. Gilchrist, excellent scribe; Jesse G. Jewett, treasurer; George E. Hawes, secretary; Rev. George E. Osgood, chaplain; Allan A. Gordon, captain of the host; Howard S. Newell, principal sojourner; Lester S. Wall, royal arch captain; John Sinclair, master of third veil; Amos H. Pilling, master of second veil; John H. Paton, master of first veil; Harold W. Mason, senior steward; George E. Lincoln, junior steward; William A. Guild, tyler; trustees of the permanent fund, Ex-Companions William S. Metcalf, 1921; Fred I. Gorton, 1922; Charles H. Parker, 1923.

Aurora Lodge, No. 107, I. O. O. F., received its charter January 29, 1846, the petitioners for the new lodge being Abraham Hayward, Thaddeus Phelps, Alfred Barrows, J. D. Pierce, Lemuel Bishop, Daniel Evans, Benjamin F. Hammer and Samuel D. Forte. The lodgeroom was in the second story of a school structure in the Old Town district, and the first elective officers were: N. G., A. Hayward; V. G., T. Phelps; S., D. Evans; T., A. Tifft. On July 3, 1846, the lodge began to occupy the rooms later occupied by the Masons; and again on May 13, 1851, the hall on Orne street was dedicated to the uses of the lodge. For a time the lodge lost ground, and the race was slow. But from the year 1888 a new lease of life was given. The cornerstone of the present building was laid with the ceremonies of the order, on November 14, 1874, and the building was dedicated November 10, 1875. The officers in 1923: N. G., E. A. Coombs; V. G., C. B. Caldwell; recording secretary, W. H. Robinson; financial secretary, E. G. Holbrook; treasurer, J. H. Ballard.

Howard Encampment, No. 19, I. O. O. F., was instituted August 5, 1846. Charter members were: Rev. Joseph D. Pierce, H. M. Richards, Thaddeus Phelps, M. D., V. H. Blackinton, George L. Hancock, George H. Dodge, John



Waterhouse, and there were fourteen charter initiates. There is no complete record of the first officers of the encampment. George H. Dodge was first chief patriarch; John Waterhouse, first senior warden; B. H. Hamman, first recording scribe. The charter was relinquished some time in 1850. The Encampment was reinstituted February 21, 1876. Petitioners for the original charter were: Felix G. Whitney, Rev. Joseph D. Pierce, Daniel Evans, T. G. Sandland, George B. Whitney, F. L. Burden, F. L. Shepardson, E. S. M. Perkins, Joseph E. Pond, Jr., and the officers were: Chief patriarch, Rev. Joseph D. Pierce; high priest, George B. Whitney; senior warden, Frank L. Shepardson; recording scribe, Joseph E. Pond, Jr.; financial scribe and treasurer, Burrill Porter, Jr.; junior warden, E. S. M. Perkins. Seventeen brothers were elected and initiated on the day of the reinstitution. Two of these patriarchs, Henry G. Grant and Albert Totten, are members today. The officers for the year 1923: C. P., William H. Robinson; H. P., Henry G. Grant, P. C. P.; S. W., Lorenzo B. Sturtevant; R. S., James H. Ballard, P. C. P.; F. S., George H. Fox, P. C. P.; treasurer, Charles L. Jordan, P. C. P.; J. W., J. Lorenzo Sutherland. Membership, January 1, 1923, 113. Howard Encampment members have formed the majority of the petitioners for the charters of both Gideon M. Horton Encampment, No. 80, of Attleboro, and Foxboro Encampment, No. 81, of Foxboro.

Esther Rebekah Lodge was first formed in 1870, and was in existence but a few years when the charter was returned to the grand lodge. It was reinstituted March 31, 1886, at the request of ten petitioners, and seventy-eight were given the degree that evening. Henry G. Grant, past grand, was elected noble grand, and served the remainder of that year. Since that time a woman has filled that office. The membership in 1923 was 176. The officers that year: Noble grand, Mrs. Evalina W. Grant; vice-grand, Mrs. Mabel E. Passmore; recording secretary, Miss Emily L. Loughlin; financial secretary, Miss Mabel E. Kent; treasurer, Mrs. Ruth E. Fisher.

Thomas McDonough Council, No. 330, Knights of Columbus, was instituted April 24, 1898, its founder being Sylvester J. McGinn, who was twice elected grand knight. The first meeting was held at Emmett Hall, February 22, 1898, and there were twenty-five applications for membership. The local council was joined by men both from Attleboro and North Attleboro, and the officers at first were from both towns. The membership upon institution was fifty-eight, and it is stated that it was the largest of any council in the order at that time. Grand Knight McGinn named the council after the late Thomas F. McDonough, M. D. Sacred Heart Council, of Franklin, was formed from the North Attleboro Council. During the World War, the local council shared in every drive, and doubled its quota with the sum of \$4,000. Forty of its membership were in the service. The membership of the council in 1923 was 350, and Peter McQueeney was the grand knight.

There is a flourishing branch here of the Daughters of Isabella.

To the late John H. Campbell, foreman of the Attleboro "Chronicle," largely belongs the honor as founder of Sumner Lodge, Knights of Pythias. The lodge was instituted May 6, 1874, in Good Templar's Hall, with twenty-three names on the charter list. Soon afterwards, Aurora Lodge vacating their quarters on Orne street, Sumner Lodge removed there on December 1, 1874. Twenty-nine names were added to the roster the first year. More than five hundred knights were present at the first anniversary observance at Wamsutta Hall, May 12, 1881. A new hall in the building, constructed by I. H. F.

Barrows, was dedicated May 5, 1891, and the lodge celebrated its seventeenth anniversary with parade, banquet and ball, grand officers and many prominent members of the order being present. Sumner Company of the Uniform Rank was instituted March 12, 1891. The lodge in 1923 had one hundred members, and the officers were: C. C., A. N. Coit; V. C., A. E. Roessle; prelate, Christopher Doha; M. of W., S. K. Durell; K. of R. and S., Charles R. Kurtz; M. of F., William G. Moore; M. of E., George H. Morris; M. at A., Arthur Armington; I. G., George Dakin; O. G., E. S. Allen.

North Attleboro Lodge of Elks, No. 1011, was instituted in February, 1906, with a charter membership of forty-four. The membership in 1923 was 404. John Hedges was exalted ruler; Daniel McKay, secretary.

Sarsfield Court, No. 48, M. C. O. F., was instituted March 6, 1883, with twenty-two charter members. The membership for the year ending 1922 was 322. The court is located in K. of C. Hall, East street.

North Attleboro Council, R. A., No. 1026, was instituted March 15, 1887. Other fraternal orders represented here are: North Attleboro Aerie, No. 1041, Fraternal Order of Eagles; North Attleboro Lodge, No. 611, Loyal Order of Moose; Mirimichi Tribe, No. 110, Improved Order of Red Men.

**Industries.**—The long-time settlers within the bounds of North Attleboro, and descendants of the first colonists there, just as the Revolutionary War was drawing to a close, welcomed a certain industrious Frenchman to that part of the town. It was well for the future of this entire section of the county that they did so, for the great jewelry-manufacturing industry of this hour gives that Frenchman full credit, so far as the results of all research go, for laying the foundation of the business that has made the Attleboros famous for their product. Who was he? Local history has specified no more than that he was a Frenchman, "the foreigner," as he was called; and it has not as yet been pointed out whence he came, though there are many conjectures. It is known of a surety that he came here in 1780; that his place of business was a brick forge that stood on the site of the former shop on the property of Jesse F. Richards; that he made jewelry of some kind not designated; and that a portion of his product was brass butts. His shop disappeared in 1810, and only the memory of his original enterprise remains. Others, and yet others, continued with his practical suggestion, and jewelry making became the business of North Attleboro. In 1922 there were thirty five jewelry-making firms in the town, with a capital of \$4,272,784. The total number of people employed was 1,053, and the value of the product was \$4,172,997.

The following, compiled with the assistance of the North Attleboro "Chronicle," are the concerns that are among the leading industries of this section:

Scofield, Melcher & Scofield, manufacturers of ten-karat gold and high-grade rolled plate, was organized as early as 1821 as Draper, Tift & Company. The business eventually came into the hands of the present firm, the members being Woodbury Melcher and William Boffelman. The firm operates 90 hands.

G. W. Cheever & Company began business in the Richards Building, on Elm street, in 1880, manufacturing high-grade rolled plate goods; 75 hands are employed.

The present firm of H. F. Barrows & Company was founded in 1851, as Barrows & Sturdy, and is the oldest one in the town operating continuously under one title. Their original location was at the Falls, but removal was made to North Attleboro about 1877; and in 1907 they were established at their present building. Louis D. and David A. Barrows are associated in the business, which employs about 150 hands. The plant is one of the most attractive and thoroughly fitted industrial establishments. As early as the year 1807 members of the family were connected with the jewelry industry.



W. N. Fisher & Company, manufacturers of a general line of chain findings, was organized in 1877, and incorporated a number of years afterwards. Since the death of Mr. Fisher, the head of the concern has been W. P. McAlpine, the firm employing 50 hands.

T. I. Smith Company began business in a small way in 1860 as Coddington & Smith. They were wiped out by fire in 1861, with total loss; and in 1865 they started out again with C. H. Ames as a partner. In 1872 the late Mr. Ames purchased the interest of his two partners, and after about a year admitted D. D. Coddington as a new partner, adopting the name of T. I. Smith & Company. Later, the partners were H. H. Curtis, E. A. Crawford and L. W. Wise. Soon afterwards the business was conducted by L. W. Wise and T. S. Curtis.

W. H. Bell & Company, manufacturing men's and women's gold-filled chains and popular bracelets, was established in 1890 in the "old braid mill" at Attleboro Falls. About the year 1905 they removed to Robinsonville, where they employ 40 hands.

G. H. French Company, silversmiths, manufacture sterling silver goods. In 1882 G. Herbert French started in business with W. H. Riley, under the firm name of Riley & French. About the year 1916, Mr. French severed his connection with the firm of Riley & French, and established the house of G. H. French Company, silversmiths.

The firm of R. Blackinton & Company was established in 1862 by Roswell Blackinton, Walter Ballou and Thomas Mann, manufacturing book-clasps, at that time particularly the clasps for Bibles used by the soldiers during the Civil War. Mr. Mann retired in 1867, and upon the death of Mr. Blackinton, in 1906, the firm became composed of Roswell Blackinton, Jr., Walter R. Ballou and John R. Morss. The output today is almost exclusively sterling silver.

The Wizard Manufacturing Company was secured as one of the town's industries through the efforts of the Board of Trade. The company, whose president is Henry G. Folger, organized for the manufacture of plumbers' specialties, and the plant is an up-to-date one in every respect.

One of the substantial jewelry firms in the town is the Sturtevant-Whiting Company, manufacturers of carded goods in high-grade rolled-gold plate. The shop was opened in 1867 as S. E. Fisher & Company, the partners being S. E. Fisher, W. W. Fisher and E. D. Sturtevant. S. E. Fisher and W. W. Fisher retired in 1897, and, the business being reorganized, the firm became Sturtevant, Whiting & Bigelow. Mr. Bigelow retired in 1906, and the title of the firm changed to Sturtevant & Whiting. Mr. Sturtevant retired in 1913. In 1914 George A. Whiting incorporated the firm as Sturtevant-Whiting Company, admitting as partners Louis Kurtz and F. B. Brigham.

The H. W. Tufts Tool Company, manufacturers of tools of all sorts, was established in May, 1893. The firm helped the nation in the manufacture of many war supplies.

The Barber Electric Company was incorporated in 1915, with H. C. Barber as president and C. E. Riley as treasurer. The business is the manufacture of general electrical supplies, specializing in knife-switches, cut-outs, switchboards, etc., and 40 people are employed. Much of the work of the plant during the World War was done for the government.

Thompson & Remington, with a general refinery business of gold, silver and platinum, was organized in 1898, by J. L. Thompson, Mr. Remington entering as a partner in 1899, his interest being purchased about 1916, the firm name remaining unchanged. Mr. Thompson is one of the best-known all-round business men in this section, and has held many offices in the gift of the people, and of banking and State officials.

The G. K. Webster Company, manufacturing sterling silver goods, is one of the largest concerns of the kind in the country, occupying over 50,000 square feet of floor space. The plant is equipped with the most modern machinery. The founder of the business and president of the company, George K. Webster, at first starting in the old Whiting Building, engaged in the manufacture of a line of plated and gold-front goods. In 1898 Mr. Webster located in the Whitney Building, on Chestnut street. Outgrowing the quarters there, he built the present Webster Company factory on Broadway, and began the manufacture of sterling silver goods entirely. From 250 to 300 hands are employed.

William Coupé Company, Ltd., was established in 1865, and is the oldest tannery in the immediate section, and one of the oldest running continuously under one title in New England. Mr. Coupé, a thorough tanner, has also taken out about twenty-seven patents, and the Coupé belting leathers have world-wide celebrity.

C. E. Sandland & Son, among the best known enamelers in this section, began business about the year 1871.

LeStage Manufacturing Company, at Attleboro Falls, produces at its plant high-grade gold-filled chains, fobs, bracelets, lockets, specializing in original creations. The firm was

organized in 1915, the partners consisting of Donald LeStage and H. E. Hull. Mr. LeStage was fourteen years associated with the house of H. D. Merritt as partner, and Mr. Hull has had many years of factory experience.

The firm of J. J. Sommer & Company, specializing in cameo brooches and pendants, was established in 1879 for the manufacture of a line of white stone goods. In 1884 the title changed to the Totten & Sommer Company. Mr. Totten retired in 1896, and since that date the business has been under the ownership and direction of Mr. Sommer. The factory is a model one in every respect.

The Agawam Chemical Company, manufacturers of dyes of quality, was organized and began business as the Blackstone Chemical Company, the product being aniline oil, used by dyers. The Agawam Chemical Company took the place of the former concern, with dye manufacture as its business, and with Dr. Erik H. Greene as proprietor, one of the most expert colorists in this country.

E. I. Franklin & Company make a line of ladies' jewelry in high-grade rolled gold plate, and white stone goods in sterling silver. It was in August, 1874, that E. I. Franklin and C. W. Fisher purchased of B. Franklin, and embarked in business under the above title. In 1899 Mr. Franklin died, and the property then came into the hands of C. W. Fisher, Elton B. Fisher and W. G. Franklin.

H. D. Merritt Company manufacture high-grade gold-filled chains. The firm was organized in 1855, with J. B. Draper as partner, afterward admitting John Shepardson. At the death of Mr. Merritt, Mrs. Merritt assumed his interest, and upon the death of Mrs. Merritt in 1893 the entire business passed into the control of W. W. Sherman, admitting L. A. Morse and Donald LeStage as partners. H. P. Kent became interested at that time, and he designed the trade-mark of the company. Mr. Kent shortly retired, and in 1914 the firm was enlarged by the admission of F. E. Burns with C. H. Sherman. The house is now owned by C. H. Sherman, with L. E. Morse as manager. Mr. Sherman was the first to agitate the erection of the manufacturers' building.

The firm of Bugbee & Niles, manufacturing ten-karat jewelry and watch bracelets, in ten, fourteen and eighteen-karat, and silver, consists of Alpin Chisholm, George A. Chisholm, C. L. Rhodes and Frank P. Kennedy, and has been in business about a half century. This house was founded as Smith & Ginnodo, afterwards becoming C. E. Smith & Company.

J. P. Bonnett & Son, established in 1879, are well known colorers and electroplaters. John P. Bonnett was the founder of the firm, and was identified with electroplating with a number of prominent firms in this part of the State since his early boyhood. The business is now managed by Frank Bonnett, who was associated with his father for years.

Paye, Baker & Company, manufacturers of sterling silver and silver-plated novelties, and employing their own designers, were incorporated in 1905. They had started in business in Providence as Simmons & Paye in 1897, and on the withdrawal of Mr. Simmons in 1900, and the entrance of Mr. Baker to the firm, the present name was adopted. The firm removed their business to North Attleboro in 1903.

F. L. Shepardson & Company, manufacturing a general line of gold-filled goods, organized in 1875. Carl A. Hempel, for years with Cheever, Tweedy & Company, took charge of the business in 1909. The firm, employing about 30 hands at the Sommer Building, specializes in chains for men and women, brooches, hat pins, link buttons, scarfpins, lockets, bracelets, etc.

Jewelers' and Silversmiths' Coöperative Refining Company was organized in 1907, comprising thirty-one of the prominent manufacturers in the Attleboros. The refinery, with its modern machinery and equipment, is located on Chestnut street. It was through the skill and experience of D. J. Greenhalge that the plant was placed upon its present prosperous basis. The officers are: President, F. A. Howard; treasurer, J. A. Codding; superintendent and general manager, D. J. Greenhalge.

The firm of A. H. Bliss & Company, manufacturers of machine-made chains and other articles in gold, silver and rolled plate, was established in 1880 on Chestnut street. Anthony H. Bliss and his son, Frank H. Bliss, conduct the business.

Among the oldest chain manufacturers of the country is the corporation of the J. F. Sturdy's Sons Company, established in 1865. The house is prominent in the chain and bracelet production, and makes a specialty in optical goods. Fred E. Sturdy is president and treasurer, and H. K. Sturdy is vice-president.

Oldest among the manufacturers in this town is the firm of D. Evans & Company, established in 1805, and in business ever since. The firm was originally established under another title, Mr. Evans becoming proprietor in 1848. The business is the manufacture of uniform buttons, and during the Civil War millions of governmental buttons were made.



here. About the year 1916 the firm removed from the Falls to the Sommers Building. In 1913 Fred E. Burden, grandson of the original Mr. Evans, took charge of the business, which was thoroughly reorganized, the entire system being modernized.

In 1891 J. F. and C. O. Mason began the manufacture of paper boxes under the name of Mason Box Company, when a few girls were employed to make boxes for the local jewelry trade. From a small shop the plant grew to a modern factory of 55,000 square feet of floor space, where jewelry boxes of every description are made.

The O. M. Draper Company, one of the best known chain houses in the United States, had its beginning in 1863, and the product for the first ten years of its existence was fire gilt chains, so-called, Mr. Draper being the pioneer in the successful manufacture of chains by this process. After Mr. Draper's death, on August 1, 1900, the business was conducted as an estate by his executors, E. E. Hale and A. M. Hale, until August, 1912, when all interests were purchased by the executors and incorporated as the O. M. Draper Company, with E. E. Hale president and treasurer, and A. M. Hale secretary.

V. H. Blackinton & Company is one of the largest and oldest concerns in this country in the making of society and military metal goods. They employ a large number of skilled workmen.

---

## CHAPTER X.

### NORTON

In Norton one wins enduring impressions of substantial homes colonial; of the record of persistency of an early colonial settlement; of the work and worth of scholarly and progressive men and women; of the World War reminder of the Honor Roll on the Common; and by no means the least, of the presence of a certain William Witherell.

There was no celebration, no special commemoration, but the year 1919 marked the 250th anniversary of the year when William Witherell first set foot within the borders of the township known today as Norton—the first white person, so far as known, to have arrived and actually made his home here—though his location at Winnecunnet lake was still Taunton. He came by devious ways, by Indian trail, and through woods primeval, and on the eastern side of the lake he delayed his steps, and, as the exact old historian has it, “20 rods northerly from the bridge, over the outlet of the pond, on the 5 acres, more or less, which was granted him by the town for a home lotte”—the pond marking the bounds of the future between Taunton and Norton. Witherell set down nothing about his advent here; but the situation must have been a passably alluring one, as his descendants, eight of them in line, lived right around there, up to the time of another William Witherell, his descendant, about the year 1915. Yet the first settler of all stood by for more than two decades before the Norton township eventually was formed, which occurrence took place in 1711. William Witherell arrived at Taunton in 1643, with Captain William Dunn, whose name is to be found in the list of Taunton's original proprietors and whose vessel had sailed a distance up Taunton river. William had been a cabin boy aboard the vessel, but he had not been many years ashore, when in 1662 he was appointed a constable; and later, while living on his five-acre lot by the pond, he was again given that office. Again, in 1671 and in 1685, his fellow-townsmen honored him with the appointment of deputy from Taunton to the Plymouth Colony Court. He bought more land, both in the North and South Purchases, and in 1679 and 1680 he was

one of the court's committee to bound Assonet Neck meadows. In 1685 he was keeping an "ordinary" on the Bay road. To crown the achievements of this pioneer, he joined the militia, was made a company sergeant, and received wounds at the Narragansett Swamp Fight when Chief Philip's people made their last brave stand, the court granting him fifteen pounds for his injuries.

Then, about fourteen years after this first settler, arrived Thomas Brintnall, who in 1685 commenced the second settlement, at what is now Mansfield, but within the former Norton bounds. Ten years afterwards, in 1695, Thomas and James Leonard came to their grant of 250 acres at Stony Brook, now Chartley, where they set up their iron forge, as Leonard men were wont to do at Saugus, Braintree and Taunton, and wherever there was bog iron to work with. George Leonard, son of Thomas and nephew of James, actually set up the forge, and when that was accomplished, there were forty families here to give welcome to the new town. George Leonard and Nicholas White were chosen, November 27, 1707 and, somewhat later, John Witherell, as agents of the forty-three male inhabitants for the formation of a precinct "because of the very difficult circumstances that we are under in living so remote from the public worship of God."

Taunton did not grant the desire of the petitioners, so they preferred their request to the General Court at Boston. Twice the petition was opposed; but finally, after two years of further struggle, the triumph of the precinct folk was secured. Norton was incorporated a town June 12, 1711, so named for the Norton in England, seventy-four miles northwest of London. The present bounds of the town are as follows: north by Mansfield; east by Easton; south by Taunton and Rehoboth, and west by Attleboro—an area all told of 18,264 acres—the centre, Barrowsville, Chartley, Winnecunnet village—266 acres of the township being covered with water. Winnecunnet Pond (place of black geese) has 129 acres.

Heirs to a distinctive quality of persistency, the Leonard and Witherell branches have persisted and flourished on brave old trees. And other matters that have not ceased to persist and progress have had their anniversary claims set forth within recent years, notably the establishment of the first school here in 1719, and the presentation of the first warrant for town meeting that year. The same urgent spirit asserted itself in Norton when later the Stamp Act was imposed, and when 300 men from here represented Norton in the Revolution; again, in 1861, when 155 Norton men answered the call to the colors; again, today, there are 112 names on the local honor roll, those of brave comrades in the World War.

Quite as distinct and clear is that other leading impression of Norton—that of the influence of woman here, and the generous and graceful attention she has given to a number of institutions whose development has accorded the community far more than local repute. Wheaton College, beautiful for situation, ideal for collegiate advantages, once the struggling seminary, is now everywhere known and honored. Wheaton has made its home here since 1834, through the influence and direction of Mrs. Eliza B. Wheaton, who for seventy years sustained and advanced the noble foundation of the late Judge Wheaton, his memorial to a cherished daughter. The constituency of the college represents young womanhood from all sections of the country, and they have shared in the maintenance and honor



of that foundation. Nearby is the evidence of the results of lifework of other women, the Misses Hyde and Cornish, their "House in the Pines," a home school for girls, being near the college. Norton people see their presence with gratitude, as they do also the gift of the Norton Public Library, built and presented the town in 1887 by Mrs. Wheaton; also her gift of the chapel of the Trinitarian Congregational Church. The town hall itself was a woman's gift. In 1882 Miss Harriot A. Newcomb, carrying out the wishes of her father, presented the town with that structure for its principal public building. Such impressions of Norton are not haphazard ones, neither are those of the commodious and hospitable homes of Norton—those built by Rev. Joseph Avery and Rev. Pitt Clark, the Major Leonard house, and many others. And as we catch glimpses of some of the fifty farms along the borders of good roads, among them those of Alden G. Walker, Virgil Leonard, Alfred B. White, Charles H. Freeman, Homer Lane and George L. Jackson, the passing sight of them is evidence of the fact that Norton is an agricultural town of excellence. The population of Norton in 1923 was 2,374. The total valuation of real estate in 1922 was \$1,574,300; personal estate, \$628,800; the number of polls assessed, 734.

**Churches.**—There was no delay on the part of the townsmen to organize their church, and the very year of the town incorporation, Rev. Samuel Phillips began to take charge of the Congregational flock. Like the first ministers in Attleboro and Mansfield and elsewhere throughout the county, Mr. Phillips had not been ordained when he preached his first sermon here, January 1, 1710. Fifty men of the new parish gave contributions of land for the use of the minister, Judge Thomas Leonard being particularly active and generous in that regard. Mr. Phillips did not remain as a settled minister, however, and Rev. Joseph Avery received the call of the congregation December 23, 1710, the church then being organized as a society. The first meetinghouse stood on the Common, a tablet being placed there within recent years to point out the spot. Rev. Mr. Avery's house was built to the west of that. He remained as pastor until 1748, and several men supplied the pulpit to the year 1752. Rev. Joseph Palmer was ordained here January 3, 1753, and remained until his death, April 4, 1791. It was during his pastorate that the society was incorporated as a parish in 1783. Rev. Pitt Clark was ordained July 3, 1793, and he continued until his death, February 13, 1835; during that year the present church was erected. The church bell was cast by Paul Revere in 1810. Settled pastors since that time have been: Revs: A. M. Briggs 1836-40; William P. Tilden, 1841-44; Amory Gale, M. D., 1845-48; Frederic Hinckley, 1848-50; George Faber Clark, 1852-61; (he wrote the "History of Norton"); Daniel S. C. M. Potter, 1863-69; Isaac Kelso, 1869-70; John B. Willard, 1870-71; J. E. Bruce, 1871-72; S. C. Beach, 1873-76; J. M. Trask, 1876; L. W. Manning, 1876-80; W. H. Reeby, 1880-84; C. F. Nicholson, 1887-92; C. A. Young, 1893-96; Francis W. Holder, 1896-98 and 1899-1906; J. H. Weeks, 1907; Herbert H. Mott, 1912-21; Walter A. Tuttle, 1922—.

The Trinitarian Congregational Church was organized April 3, 1832, first meetings having been held at the home of Mrs. Eliza B. Wheaton, and among those who first conducted the services being Dr. Lyman Beecher, Dr. Richard S. Storrs, and Rev. John West. The church building was

dedicated January 1, 1834, due to the generous gifts of Hon. Laban Wheaton, his son Hon. Laban M. Wheaton, and others. That was the year of the founding of Wheaton Seminary, the present Wheaton College, and from that time to the present the interests both of the church and the college became closely identified. The chapel, formerly the gymnasium of the seminary, was dedicated September 18, 1878, the gift of Mrs. E. B. Wheaton; it was re-dedicated November 26, 1882. The following-named have served as ministers: Revs. Spencer F. Beard, Cyrus W. Allen, Homer Barrows, William Barrows, Franklin Holmes, Samuel Beane, Henry C. Fay, Henry K. Craig, Timothy Atkinson, William N. T. Dean, James P. Lane, George H. Hubbard, Vernon C. Harrington, Charles E. Harris, Charles A. Ratcliffe.

The Wesleyan Methodist Church was organized May 3, 1850, and the church building was dedicated May 8, 1854. The Methodist Episcopal Church was established as a mission, at Lane's station, the present Barrowsville, about the year 1874, by Rev. E. D. Hall, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Attleboro. First meetings were held at residences, at the depot, and in a jewelry shop, since destroyed by fire. A chapel was dedicated in February, 1876. A separate church organization was secured June 10, 1876.

A Baptist church was organized here in 1761 by parishioners of the First Church. The church was dissolved in 1835, and a new Baptist parish organized that year.

The Catholic church building, St. Mary's, on the Taunton road, was built in 1865 by Rev. Father Shahan. Alternately it was supplied by priests from the Taunton and the Attleboro parishes. Rev. Father Cain of Oakland has been the pastor in recent years. Rev. Fathers O'Connell and Fox were former pastors.

**Educational.**—As early as the year 1791, Thomas Skinner was appointed schoolmaster, and the same year Patience Leach taught school. Abigail Morey taught school in 1793. In the year 1923 there were four schools in the town—the high school, Center, Chartley and Barrowsville, with a total of 588 pupils. The appropriation for school maintenance that year was \$30,500. The total amount in the school savings bank was \$901.41. The high school started the school year of 1922-23 with ninety-five pupils. The high school principals have been Harry E. Gardner, Miss Bertha E. Piggott, A. W. Hopson, Ralph B. Farnum, Kent L. Sanborn, Earl Thibodeau, Charles R. Randall.

**Wheaton College.**—The town of Norton has justifiable pride in the fact that Wheaton College, one of the small but progressive colleges for women in this country, and the only institution bearing a college charter within the limits of the original territory controlled by the Pilgrim Fathers, has its location within the town's limits. It is an old institution, having been founded in 1834 as one of the pioneer schools in the higher education of women. Established by Judge Laban Wheaton as a memorial to his only daughter, the college was opened in 1835 as Norton Female Seminary, the incorporation of the institution taking place in 1837. The seminary began its existence at the suggestion of Judge Wheaton's daughter-in-law, Mrs. Eliza Baylies Chapin Wheaton, then a young woman of





WHEATON COLLEGE—NORTON





twenty-five, who outlived the other members of the family, and for more than seventy years, or until her death at the age of ninety-six, made the institution the object of her care and benefactions. The name of the school was changed to Wheaton Female Seminary in 1839, but it was commonly known as Wheaton Seminary, until it became Wheaton College, February 12, 1912. Miss Mary Lyon superintended the organization of the institution and she directed its work for the first two years, or until she entered upon her duties at Mt. Holyoke College, to which she had been pledged.

Rev. Joseph Emerson, of Beverly, whose initiative prepared the way for the higher education of women and who was the teacher and inspirer of Mary Lyon, was intimately associated with the life and history of Wheaton, one of the buildings bearing the family name. The school was never co-educational, but from the first gave itself wholly to its distinctive work. It stood in the front rank, and, until the rise of the women's colleges, offered as good an opportunity as could be had from any institutional source for the education of women. In the year 1897, for the sake of a better adjustment to the new educational conditions, Wheaton underwent a reorganization, and this resulted in many important changes during the succeeding years. Building after building was erected or otherwise acquired; the material equipment was added to in various other ways; and the departments of study were enlarged and strengthened. The college occupies a most attractive location in the town of Norton, and in one of the most healthful regions in New England. The extensive grounds include a beautiful strip of woods on the south of the Campus, known as College Pines, and an area on the north devoted in part to the college farm. Covering about one hundred acres, diversified by gardens, lawns, hedges, trees and meadows, containing an athletic field, tennis courts, basket-ball standards, and other equipment for out-door sports, they give the student a sense of freedom. The college has twenty-four buildings, not including the farm buildings. Eleven of these are modern brick buildings in the colonial style of architecture, and seven are dwelling houses just outside the campus. The buildings are heated by steam and lighted by electricity from a plant owned and operated by the college. The new halls of residence, constructed of brick, contain both single and double rooms, with bath and toilet rooms on each floor.

Mary Lyon Hall, on the site of the original building erected by Judge Wheaton, contains class rooms, faculty room, studios, and a large lecture hall. Metcalf Hall consists of two buildings, erected at different times, and connected by an isthmus; it contains public parlors, the administrative offices, and, above the first floor, rooms for students. Chapin Hall was erected in 1900 as the first of the new halls of residence, it being constructed of brick, with trimmings of cream-white Vermont marble. Lucy Larcom Hall, also a hall of residence, is a larger building than Chapin Hall, and is connected at one end with Emerson Hall by means of a pergola of brick piers and by a granolithic walk. Cragin Hall is a companion building to Lucy Larcom Hall; it is located at the south of Emerson Hall, with which it is also connected by a pergola.

Stanton Hall, opened in the fall of 1921 as a hall of residence, with a dining room of its own, is a dignified structure of brick, in the late

Georgian style, like the other buildings of the college; and it stands at the southern end of the campus, just beyond Cragin Hall. The building was named in honor of Miss A. Ellen Stanton, who was a teacher in the institution for twenty-six years, during seventeen of which she was principal of Wheaton Seminary. Barrows House, standing at the corner of Main street and Mansfield avenue, on land adjoining the holdings of the college, was acquired by purchase in the spring of 1922; and with its annex it has been remodeled to serve as a small hall of residence. Emerson Hall contains the general dining-room, the kitchen, with its various appointments, and in the second story the living-rooms of the matron and her assistants. This building also is of red brick in the late Georgian style. The Chapel, dedicated in 1917, occupies a site between the Gymnasium and the Science building, and completes the easterly side of the quadrangle; the spire rises 147 feet from the ground. The combined seating capacity of the main floors and the galleries is about 900. An organ occupies two sides of the chancel. The Library building stands at the southern end of the campus, and completes with distinction the main quadrangle. The cornerstone was laid in June, 1922. Other structures are the Science building, the Observatory, first opened in February, 1917; the Gymnasium; the Infirmary; the President's House and the Power House. The chapel is regarded as one of the finest examples of New England architecture. Holmes Cottage and Carpenter House are ready for occupancy for overflow from the college dormitory.

When Rev. Samuel V. Cole, D.D., LL.D., became president of Wheaton in 1897, that college was given a new and a larger lease of life, and its modernization and growth have been marked from that time. The change of the name from seminary to college was suggested by Dr. Cole, and it met with no opposition, the policy of the new president being to build up the preparatory work, and eventually to eliminate preparatory work altogether, which has been done, to the end that in November, 1922, the college received the approval of the Association of American Universities, and was placed on the accredited list of colleges recognized by that institution. The college also has been rated with Class A in the University of Illinois, and in 1923 was admitted to membership in the American Association of University Women. The class that entered for college work in 1912 numbered only fifteen, and it required both courage and faith to come to the new college, then, as the other two hundred students in the institution were either college preparatory, regular seminary or special students. At the end of 1914 all preparatory work had vanished, and no new students were received who could not profitably pursue college work. In 1921 the college enrolment had increased from fifteen to 309, every student having met the admission requirement of fifteen units, and become regularly classified in courses leading to the A. B. degree.

In the fall of 1923 the college had over 400 students, with everyone regularly classified for the A. B. degree, the students coming from twenty-five different States, and some of them from abroad. The college motto, established in 1912 by President Cole, is, "That they may have life, and have it more abundantly", and the institution throughout all handicaps, and even through the blighting influence of the World War, has lived up to the significance of the motto, so that the achievements of the college



have been considered miraculous. Dr. Cole, who has worked steadily and perseveringly to bring about these changes in the institution was for several years a member of the board of trustees of Bowdoin College, his *alma mater*, and he has received honorary degrees from colleges. The faculty of the college now consists of thirty-five members, both men and women, and among the features are the Academic Council, the College Government Association, the departmental clubs, the Bureau of Vocational Opportunities, and a system of college preachers. There is a strong Christian Association, out of which has grown the Intercollegiate Community Service Association. President Calvin Coolidge delivered the commencement address in 1923, and at that time received the honorary degree of LL.D., the first man to receive an honorary degree from Wheaton.

House in the Pines was established in 1911 by the Misses Althea E. Hyde and Gertrude E. Cornish, the latter of whom had previously been a teacher at Wheaton College and Miss Porter's School in Farmington. It was opened primarily for girls of high school age, but a small number of younger children was also accepted. During the second year of the school, Miss Hyde was married, and since then the school has continued under the efficient and successful guidance of Miss Cornish, a woman of great understanding of and love for girls. Originally the school property consisted of a main house of fine, colonial architecture and a recitation building, but during the succeeding years other buildings and land were acquired, until in 1923 the school grounds, which include pine groves, athletic fields and farm land, cover an area of eighty acres. There are six buildings: the Main House, the recitation building; the Cottage, a dormitory for girls of the Upper School; the farm house, the infirmary and the Hedges. The Hedges, a large estate opposite the Main House, was added to the property in 1921 and opened as a school for girls under the age of fourteen. This has its own playgrounds and outdoor equipment. The school is supplied with vegetables and eggs from its own farm. It also has a large herd of Jersey cows and a stable of well-trained saddle horses. From the beginning the school has offered a peculiarly homelike atmosphere and high standards and ideals for the development of the girl as well as sound academic training. The number of pupils is limited, so that it may be possible for the principal to know each girl individually and to give her the personal touch often needed to bring into the foreground the qualities that are the attributes of the best self. In the Upper School, college preparatory and general courses are given. In the former course, girls are thoroughly prepared for all the best colleges for woman. Since 1918 a two-year diploma course of advanced work for high school graduates has been a strong feature. In this course special advantages are offered in languages, music, drawing and painting, household arts and secretarial work. In the Junior School, primary and grammar grade work is provided and there is a country-day department for children living near.

**Public Library, etc.**—The Norton Public Library had its origin with the Norton Magazine Club that was formed, in 1879, to secure to its members and their families the reading of the principal magazines, reviews, and other publications, each member paying two dollars annually to meet the cost. For several years the headquarters was at the Town Hall, Mrs. E. T. Wetherell acting as librarian. Miss Ann E. Carter made the sugges-

tion that from this beginning there should come a free library for the town, and just before her death a gift and bequest was made by Miss Carter to further the project. The room at the Town Hall was maintained as a public reading room from 1883, Miss Emily A. Titus succeeding Mrs. Wetherell as librarian, and the Magazine Club voted to turn over to the Public Library all their bound volumes and all their magazines to January 1, 1885. The Library was incorporated April 7, 1886, by William E. Payson, Arthur M. Round, Davis Gregory, E. T. Wetherell, James P. Lane and Emily A. Titus. The present library was built in 1887, the gift of Mrs. Eliza B. Wheaton, wife of Judge Laban Wheaton. There are 9,225 books on the shelves. The board of trustees in 1923: President, Miss Mabel H. Perry; vice-president, Rev. M. J. Creeger; secretary and treasurer, Walter C. S. Wood; Miss Clara V. Coyle, G. H. O'Brien, C. S. Randall, Dr. Arthur M. Round, Mrs. Walter S. Williams, and the selectmen *ex officio*. Librarian, Miss Marion E. Clapp; assistant, Miss Nina Leonard.

Norton Grange Hall is the meeting place of Norton Grange. The master of the grange in 1923 was Albert Jenks.

The Norton Home for Old Ladies, on Newland street, was formally placed in the hands of a board of trustees early in 1923 by the executors of the will of the late Harriot A. Newcomb—Judge Charles C. Hagerty, of Mansfield, and Charles S. Newcomb, of Torrington, Connecticut. Among the provisions is that no admission fee shall ever be charged to any applicant desiring to enter the Home, but that by-laws may provide that applicants possessing property be required to give same to the Home. The trustees are: Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Newcomb, of Torrington, Connecticut; Mr. and Mrs. Edgar M. Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Wood, Miss Mabel H. Perry, Mr. and Mrs. George E. Smith. The officers: President, Edgar M. Holmes; secretary, Mabel H. Perry; treasurer, Charles S. Newcomb; directors: W. C. S. Wood, Mrs. W. C. S. Wood, George E. Smith, Mrs. George E. Smith, Mrs. Charles S. Newcomb, Mrs. Edgar M. Holmes.

The Norton District Nursing Association, originated here in 1920, is performing a very valuable work in this town, the officers for 1923 being: President, James Flaherty; vice-president, Mrs. Florence Williams; secretary, Miss Florence Cowles; treasurer, Arthur Valentine.

Norton's first postoffice was established in 1817, with Earl P. White as postmaster. Laban M. Wheaton, Earl Hodges and Mrs. Harriet Hodges were his immediate successors. Other postoffices of the town are those at Barrowsville, Chartley, East Norton and Norton Furnace. The town clerks have been: John Briggs, 1711; George Leonard, John Hodges, George Leonard, Jr., David Williams, John King, Captain Silas Cobb, Seth Smith, Jr., Thomas Fobes, Joseph Hunt, George Walker, Thomas Danforth, John Crane, Rev. George F. Clark, Austin Messenger, Jacob A. Leonard, George White. Mr. Leonard was town clerk thirty-nine years.

The first resident physician here was Dr. Samuel Caswell, in 1723. Others in succession were: Doctors Nicholas White, William Ware, John Wild, Jr., Lewis Sweeting, George Wheaton, Jonathan Pratt, Gideon Tiffany, Adam Johnstone, Daniel Parker, Nathaniel Cook, Timothy Smith, Nathan Babbitt, Samuel Morey, Lewis Laprelite, Leavitt Bates, Guilford Hodges, Asa M. Adams, Richard F. Sweet, Ira Barrows, Benjamin F.



Round, George H. Randall, George W. Wild. Dr. Arthur M. Round in 1923 was the only resident physician.

**Industries.**—First of all as regards the industries of the old days, was the iron forge of Thomas and James Leonard of Stony Brook, near the Leonard mansion house, later carried on by the son of Thomas, namely Major George Leonard, his son George and his grandson George. Here, also, Judge Leonard had a grist mill; and still later, in 1855, George L. Barnes, a descendant of Major George Leonard, built a saw and shingle mill near that site. Years afterward it came into the hands of H. S. Freeman, C. D. and C. H. Dane, and then the Norton Steam Power Company, organized by Charles D. Lane in 1871. The company was incorporated February 25, 1873. The factory was first occupied September 1, 1872, by William A. Sturdy & Company, jewelers, and in 1873 and 1874 Bodman & Hussey occupied a part of the building. The latter was burned December 26, 1874, and rebuilt in 1875. It was purchased in 1879 by William A. Sturdy and C. S. and George L. Wetherell. Corn and grist mills were operated by the Leonards from 1714 to 1770, and these passed through various hands, until in 1819 Ephraim Raymond and Josiah Dean erected a cotton factory and organized the Norton Manufacturing Company. Thence this property also passed through the possession of Samuel Crocker, Charles Richmond, Albert Barrows and others. In February, 1884, the Wheaton Manufacturing Company, consisting of Albert Barrows, Samuel B. King and Laban M. Wheaton, began to manufacture cotton and woolen goods. They sold to the Newbury Manufacturing Company in 1865. In 1871 Lafayette Godfrey purchased the property for the same purpose, and in 1875 the Stafford Manufacturing Company of Fall River were the purchasers.

The first mill for fulling, dyeing and dressing cloth in Norton was built by Jonathan Hodges in 1745. That was the beginning of a long series of ownerships and intermittent activities that were pursued by Nathan and Edward Babbitt, Annes Newcomb, Edward and Levi Babbitt, Asa Newcomb, Thomas Danforth, Jonathan Smith, Simeon Presbrey, Jr., Daniel Presbrey, Stimson Austin, Alanson Cobb, Nathaniel Newcomb, Maynard Newcomb. William Carpenter started a nail-cutting factory in 1790. The hat-making industry was begun in 1808 by Ansel Keith and Jonathan Smith. Then in turn on the same site followed Thomas Danforth, Hiram H. Wetherell, Horace B. Wetherell, the Straw Manufacturing Company, the Wheaton Manufacturing Company, the Norton Straw Company, the Norton Manufacturing Company. The first tannery in town was started by John Andrews soon after the incorporation of the town. Deacon Benjamin Copeland built another tannery in 1740, which was continued by members of the family until 1845. In 1758 David Arnold built a tannery. In 1858 Austin Messinger began the manufacture of friction matches, and he later went into partnership with Andrew H. Sweet. In 1828 the Centre Mills cotton factory was started on the Ebenezer Burt water privilege on Rumford river by Deacon Daniel Lane & Sons, in association with others. Laban M. Wheaton acquired the property in 1846, and then, successively, Nathan Smith and Story & Talbot. Present industries follow:

The J. C. Briding Company, Jesse Carpenter, proprietor, manufacture shoe lace braids. The Defiance Company are dyers and bleachers.

The Freeman Daughaday Company, with a capital of \$300,000, employ 300 hands in the manufacture of men's jewelry. C. L. Valentine is president; O. P. Becker, secretary; F. P. Daughaday, treasurer.

Sturdy Brothers, at Chartley, employ fifty to sixty hands in the manufacture of jewelry. Arthur T. and Harry P. Sturdy are the partners.

Sweet Paper Box Company, with a capital of \$20,000 employ twenty-two hands in the manufacture of paper boxes. Frank L. Nelson is president; Louis L'Amoureux, secretary; George H. Fuller, treasurer.

The Norton and Taunton street railway was built in 1898. The Norton Electric Light and Power Company was organized in 1907. The Norton Savings and Loan Association was organized at Chartley, January 20, 1890, with Austin Messinger, president, and C. Bowen Wetherell, secretary and treasurer.

The Decorative Metal Company, Inc., is a continuation of a partnership business heretofore known as the Decorative Metal Company. It is situated at present at East Norton. It was originally started about 1919, and was incorporated April 7th, 1923. It manufactures a line of portable lamps, advertising novelties, and all types of metal goods made from various compounds of lead, tin and antimony. The officers are Elihu G. Sibley, president, and Charles S. McNulty, secretary and treasurer.

The A. H. Sweet & Son Company, manufacturers of wooden boxes and packing cases, sold their business early in 1923 to Sprague & Reynolds, of East Freetown; and the latter, which has extensive saw mill and box factory holdings in the south part of the county, continue the operation of the Sweet plant. The Sweet company was one of the oldest of the business enterprises of Norton, and was the successor to Messinger & Sweet, at one time conducting a match factory and wood and paper box making plants.

---

## CHAPTER XI.

### RAYNHAM

Though Raynham of today is but little more than a farming community, and a town of desirable homes, like many another town nearby, then town-makers and home-makers have achieved something valuable indeed—the very possession that our Saxon ancestors were after, and the idea of which they incorporated into all names that have the “hame” ending. There are factories along the river—nail, rivet and special shops, that employ many; there are the churches, the woman's club, the grange, the library, the schools—yet one is sure to find the homes of Raynham first claimants to interest.

**Industrial.**—And as we think of Raynham, inevitably we recall the arrival here of the Leonards and of iron-making. The important enterprise of iron manufacture was here launched in 1652, when the Leonards, Henry and James, had begun a business that was to continue for more than two centuries the leading activity of Taunton, a business without successful rivalry in the province. It marked the beginning of Raynham that, like many another township around us today, sleeps along old highways. The Leonards were the shrewd, practical, fearless men in their craft, and success crowned all they ever attempted to do, both here and elsewhere, so long as bog-iron and surrounding woodlands were plentiful. They had been workers in iron in Monmouthshire in England, whence they had originally come; and while iron ore had lasted at Braintree, from which place they had more recently arrived to Taunton, they were acknowledged captains of their industry, as well as at Hammersmith, in Saugus, the Indian



name for the Lynn territory. Such a statement is equivalent to saying that the first ironworks in New England had been established in those places, and not here, as is sometimes popularly believed. That is so. Nevertheless, Taunton's claim to the greatest longevity of the business is a paramount one; and it is of that fact that the old East Precinct, or Raynham, may properly boast, and not of priority, the legend on Raynham town seal to the contrary, notwithstanding. So the Leonards came and conquered, in industry's name. But some time before these ironmasters made their appearance upon the local scene, Taunton settlers had discovered and known of the presence, and the excellence of bog iron; and pursuant to making the business a going concern, an ironworks company was formed by twenty-three persons who, together with contributors from other colony towns, thus were ready to assure the Leonards a substantial basis for the kindling of their forge fires. The far-sighted settlers, progenitors of the Williams, Hall, King, Dean, Woodward, Tisdale, Washburn, Walker, Shaw, Cobb, Burt, Wilbur, Hodges and other families, then directed by the Leonards, gave of their time and substance in setting up the 'bloomerie' and the placing of the machinery that had to be brought from England; and they were so occupied for several years before the forge turned out its first iron in 1656.

George Hall, progenitor of the present Hall family here, was also manager and clerk of the iron works, and John Turner had charge of the forge. James Leonard, son of Captain Thomas Leonard, is recorded as having been the manager in 1683, and he was followed in succession by Henry Andrews, Captain Thomas Leonard, John Hall, Israel Dean, Elijah Leonard—"a Leonard always, wherever there is an ironworks," as one of the sayings had it. And this brings us to the time when Raynham was given its separate town rights, April 1, 1731, the ironworks being within its bounds, and the town being owner of proportionate shares. It was in 1767 that the shares in the business began to depreciate in value, owing to the fact that the production of good ore was showing a decline, and that coal for the furnace had decreased in price. But up to this period, three generations of the Leonard family had directed the affairs of the plant. Eventually, Josiah Dean in 1767 took over the good-will of the forge and started a nail works and a rolling mill, manufacturing also the first copper bolts that were made in this part of the State. He continued in that line up to the year 1825, when Major Eliab Dean took charge of the affairs of the ancient plant, this time in the manufacture of anchors, his descendants continuing that work up to 1876, when the forge fires died out, and this industrial relic passed.

The Indian chief, King Philip (Metacomet), who had several camps on the domains of his fathers in this section (that at Fowling Pond, a little over a mile above the situation of the Forge, and through which region Two Mile river flows, being one of his favorite hunting grounds), became a frequent visitor to the original Raynham home of the Leonards, and to the Forge. The Leonards were wont to supply the chief with food, and they also repaired his weapons. Philip admired James Leonard as a man "fair and above-board," and as an earnest of his friendship is said to have made Leonard a present of 150 acres of land. This friendliness that had existed between the two camps accounts for the fact that although the

Forge and its group of buildings were garrisoned, and there is a tradition that a fort was built here, also—the red chief held to a great extent to the memory of his former comradeship, and comparatively little harm came to Taunton settlement during the period of the outbreak. The first of the Leonard houses of the distinctive colonial type was built in 1670, and there is another tradition that the head of King Philip was long kept hidden in its cellar.

One more fact in relation to the old Forge and its product—though there yet remains a mine of information regarding the works, as plentiful as was the bog iron itself at the beginning. There were as yet in this country no banks, of course, and money was scarce. Immigrants and emigrants brought and took away with them much of the specie. Little wonder was it, then, that the iron made from the bog ore should become as valuable as gold. A mint had been set up in Boston for coining silver money, and the first pine tree shillings were made of silver imported from the West Indies, but this created only a small supply. As a result, some of the bar iron here manufactured was put into circulation as a medium of exchange. Rev. Samuel Hopkins Emery's "History of Taunton" is quoted from in the following first order for "iron as money" from one of the founders of Taunton and promoters of the ironworks: "Ensign Thomas Leonard: Please pay to bearer, tipping nine shillings and three pence in iron as money. From yr friend, Richard Williams." Now, no sight nor sound remain of the ancient iron industry, and no descendants of the Leonard ironworks remain at the immediate furnace precinct. The late Captain John W. D. Hall, besides discovering the old journals of the ironworks business, gathered and published valuable information relating to the enterprise.

Raynham, for ninety-four years a part of Taunton, was separated and became a town by itself, April 1, 1731, which was the date of its incorporation, and therewith provision was immediately made for religious teaching, and for a settled ministry, as well as for a schoolmaster. Samuel Leonard, Jr., was chosen town clerk. His successors since that time have been as follows: Josiah Dean, Zephaniah Leonard, Mason Shaw, Robert Britton, Seth Washburn, Josiah Dean, Horatio Leonard, Abraham Hathaway, William Snow, Soranus Hall, Samuel Jones, Dennis Rockwell, Samuel Jones, Araunah L. Leach, Joseph M. White, Damon White, Elmer Lincoln, Walter E. Harlow. The total valuation of the town in real estate in 1922 was \$1,176,919; on personal estate, \$275,805. The population was about 1,850.

**Churches and Schools.**—During the year 1729, two years previous to the incorporation of the town, individuals incurred the expense of building a meetinghouse, which was nearly completed in 1731, and a tax was levied to pay that expense. John Wales was chosen the first minister, he having already been attending to the spiritual wants of the people. His salary was fixed at about \$266. In this first church in the new town there were fourteen men and seventeen women who had been members of the church in Taunton. Rev. John Wales continued to be the minister for thirty-four years, or until the time of his death, February 23, 1765. The Revolution was at its height, when, July 29, 1776, Perez Fobes of Bridgewater was



chosen pastor, and he was given a salary of \$390. Rev. Mr. Fobes was one of the noted educators of his generation. He was a graduate of Cambridge University in England, and, like other clergymen of that period, he served as chaplain during the Revolution. He was professor of experimental philosophy at Brown College, and during the absence of President Manning he acted in the capacity of president of that institution. He was chosen a fellow of the college in 1787, and in 1792 he received the degree of Doctor of Laws. He had a marked talent for extemporaneous speaking, and "could thrill an audience with spontaneous eloquence." The church was without a pastor seven months after the death of Rev. Mr. Fobes, and Rev. Stephen Hull was installed, September 2, 1812.

The first meetinghouse, a plain structure, stood a quarter of a mile east of the Leonard forge, and on the north side of the road leading to "Squaw-betty". The second meetinghouse stood upon land purchased from Amariah Hall at the centre of the town, and was built by Israel Washburn. The pews were square and high; the galleries extended on three sides; there were no blinds; and the pulpit with its sounding-board stood on the east side. A steeple and a bell were added some years after the erection of the building. The first old church was taken down in 1780. The third meetinghouse was built in 1832, near the centre of the lot upon which the second church stood, and the bell was transferred from the old belfry to the new. In the second church building, town meetings had been held, and legal impediments stood in the way of the demolishment of the structure, which event some of the townsfolk desired. One morning Raynham awoke to find that during the night the tower of the meetinghouse had been pushed over and lay across the street, its vane and lightning rod reaching into the orchard of Amos Hall. The tower was removed, and nothing then stood in the way of the removal of the rest of the building, which was done. In 1912 the last of the trio of old church buildings was burned in a conflagration that took with it at the time another house, a blacksmith shop, and a carriage repository.

Rev. Enoch Sanford, local historian and genealogist, was the fourth pastor of the Congregational church in this town. He was a graduate of Brown University in the class of 1820, and a tutor there two years. He was ordained here October 2, 1823, and was given a salary of \$500. Rev. Mr. Sanford resigned in 1847, after a pastorate of nearly a quarter of a century. He was succeeded by Rev. Robert Carver, a graduate at Andover Theological Seminary, in 1847, and who during the Civil War was chaplain of the Seventh Regiment. The present church building, built of field stone, was erected in 1912, and the pastor in 1923 was Rev. C. Leonard Holton. He is also pastor of the North Raynham Congregational Church that was organized in 1875, which society was established in accordance with a bequest of Martin L. Hall of Brookline, a native of Raynham, son of Seth and Selina Hall. He left in his will a bequest of \$16,000 for the purchasing of land and building a church. The church building was erected in 1876, and dedicated in November of that year. Rev. C. A. Thurston was the first pastor.

The Baptists began to hold their meetings in the thirties at the home of Asa King, who throughout the initial years of that society was its benefactor and helper. He was grandfather of E. Judson King, for whom the

Judson district of Raynham was named. The church itself was organized in 1839, and a few years afterwards the building was erected, Rev. Ebenezer Briggs being the first pastor. Rev. Ephraim Ward of Middleboro succeeded Elder Briggs, and he was succeeded in 1846 by Rev. Silas Hall. For a number of years, the pulpit had transient supplies; but Rev. James Andem became the pastor in 1855, during which year the parsonage was built. Successively, the pastors thereafter were: Revs. William Reed, Thomas Atwood, John Blain, Lumin Kinney, Asa Bronson, Ambler Edson, Albert Colburn, J. W. Lathrop, Rev. T. C. Tingley. The pastor in 1923 was Rev. Jacob F. Speerli. In 1860 this church united with the Taunton Baptist Association.

A Unitarian society was formed in 1828, which was composed of twenty-five members of the older church, and others in the town; and this congregation designated itself the Second Congregational Society, it being composed of representatives of the prominent families here. Their meeting-place was in a hall that was owned by Captain Reuben Hall, but soon a church was built on land a little north of the first church that was presented them by Ellis Hall. Rev. Simeon Doggett was their minister for a number of years, though twelve years after having been established regular services were discontinued. For many years afterward, afternoon services were held that were in charge of the Unitarian ministers from Taunton; but these were discontinued in 1870, and the church was changed into a hall and made use of for entertainments.

Eleven years after the incorporation of the town, or in 1742, Schoolmaster Fisher was teaching the children reading, writing and arithmetic, and he was succeeded in 1744 by John Lea, who was employed to teach seven weeks and four days, for sixteen pounds and sixteen shillings. The schools at this time were removed from one section of the town to the other, for the convenience of the pupils. The Raynham schools in 1923 had a total membership of 360 in the following-named schoolhouses: Center schoolhouse, the first brick building in the town, erected in 1919; the North Primary, Gilmore Grammar, Prattville, South and Judson, with ten regular teachers. Forty-three pupils from here were attending Taunton High School. The cost of maintaining the schools here was then about \$28,300, of which about \$9,000 was paid by the State. Helen F. Robinson was chairman of the school committee, George A. Turner, secretary. The schools are directed under the union district with West Bridgewater, W. J. B. MacDougall, superintendent.

**The Town in the Wars.**—Early during the Revolution, the town voted to pay its share towards defraying the expenses of the Continental Congress; and in 1775 the local committee of safety consisted of Israel Washburn, Joshua Leonard, Benjamin King and Elijah Leonard. Among those who served in the Revolution from here were Seth Dean, Captain Abraham Hathaway, Elijah Gushee, Gaius King, Job Hall, Benjamin Cane, Joseph Shaw, Noah Hall, Samuel Hall. There were two companies of uniformed militia in the town in 1810—the South company, commanded by Captain Barzillai King, and the North company by Captain Simeon Wilbur. Raynham sent her quota of thirty-nine men to the front in the Civil War, the members of Raynham's volunteers in Company K, Fourth Regi-



ment, being Alex. R. Cain, Francis R. Hall, Alden Whitman, Sylvanus S. Whitman. A soldiers' monument erected on Raynham Green was the gift of the late Miss Amy Leonard and others.

During the World War, the activities of every individual in the town were commensurate with those of any other community, whether in the giving of money, making of materials, or providing men for various of the contingents in the service. George F. Rogers was the general chairman of the committees. There are fifty-eight names on the honor roll on Raynham Green. One of that number, Chester Danforth, never returned from his service abroad, and it is supposed that he was among the many who fell in battle in France, and of whom news could never be obtained.

**Miscellaneous.**—Few small towns have so active a woman's club as that in Raynham, that has interested itself in all matters that pertain to the progress and welfare of this community. In 1905 the project was launched under the direction of Mrs. Mary Fletcher, when the organization was known as the Raynham Social Club, with both social and benevolent purpose in view, of which they have never lost sight. They adopted their present name when on June 12, 1906, they purchased and occupied Dean's Hall—the Unitarian meetinghouse built in 1828, and called it Weonit Hall. From the first, the club has proven its value to the community, sharing actively in all matters that have to do with the advancement of the village. During the World War they worked as hard as did any woman's club in the large cities, sharing with the various organizations in Taunton, such as the Red Cross chapter, every humanitarian and soldier welfare interest. The Honor Roll on the Green with its fifty-eight names is the gift of the club, it having been erected there in 1918. Weonit Hall has its own interesting story. After its discontinuance by the Unitarians, it was sold at public auction by Ellis B. Hall, a son of the donor, between the years 1880 and 1885, Lewis Rounds being the purchaser. He expended \$400 on the building, and sold it to Warren S. Leach. After two years of ownership, Mr. Leach sold the building to the Woman's Club. The organization in 1923 had a membership of fifty-four, and its officers at that time were: President, Mrs. Isabel Hiltz; secretary, Mrs. George F. Rogers; treasurer, Mrs. Lizzie Thompson.

Raynham Center Grange was instituted in 1912, with a membership of sixty. Since that time it has been the gathering-place for counsel and direction for an increasing membership for the large farming community. Mrs. Burton T. Mowry was the grange master in 1923.

The Raynham Public Library was started in 1893, and the librarians have been Misses Edith, Clara and Lucy W. Thompson.

Besides the famed ironworks, other early industries that gave employment to the townspeople were: the saw-mill of Benjamin Shaw in 1700 on the Fowling Pond stream; James Presbro's grist-mill in 1770, at the head of Two Mile river; Zadoc Presbro and Captain Israel Washburn's furnace for the manufacture of hollow-ware, which business was continued in succession by Dr. Seth Washburn and Zadoc Presbro, Franklin Washburn, and George W. King.

E. Judson King recalls the fact that the town also was for a long period a shoe manufacturing place. The Damon White shop was built

by A. and A. B. Keith of Brockton, in the early fifties. Cassander Gilmore manufactured shoes, and he was succeeded by Zeno Kelly, Thomas Johnson and John Thompson. Other manufacturers were Charles Hewitt, Warren G. Leach and Albert Gushee. The former Charles B. Gardner tack factory was succeeded by the Diamond Tack and Nail Works. The Specialty Nail Company, with a capital of \$10,000, employ one hundred hands in the manufacture of special wire nails. W. F. Baker is president; Herbert C. Deane, treasurer; and they with George B. Evans, are the directors. Edwin Williams and Charles Thompson manufacture boxes and shooks.

The herring fishery was a leading industry during the past century, for some years the two fishing privileges bringing \$500 each.

Descendants of Philip King are doubtless among the most numerous in this town, they having been prominent in all public interests for nearly two hundred and fifty years. The Halls, the Washburns, the Deans, Gilmores, Shaws, Gushees, Williamses, Hathaways, Whites, Tracys, Knapps, have all shared in the maintenance and progress of the town's affairs. Colonel Zephaniah Leonard was high sheriff of the county for about thirty years. His son, Horatio Leonard, was also high sheriff for thirty-five years. Pictures of these men, as well as of Rev. Enoch Sanford, are at Historical Hall, in Taunton. Among the physicians of other days were: Drs. Seth Washburn, Elisha Hayward, Gaius Dean. Jonathan Shaw and Captain Samuel Wilbur were justices.

In the north part of the town, also, lived the patriot Negro, Toby Gilmore, whose uniform and cannon are at Historical Hall. He was ancestor of a large family of intelligent and thrifty people. Toby was a servant of John Gilmore, and was also of the household of General Washington in the Revolutionary War, his care being that of the general's tents. He purchased land here with his bounty, and he was also presented with the cannon that bears his name, and that on former patriotic occasions was fired by him, adding its voice to the general celebration. Toby died April 19, 1812, and was buried at the North Cemetery.

---

## CHAPTER XII.

### REHOBOTH

As one draws near to Rehoboth, the ancient Seekonk, by way of the open turnpike, and not the savage trails of the Separatist, Blackstone, one is prone to conjure up the goals of the wanderings of the three restless non-conformist clerics who, one after another, here sought asylum, or rather retreat, from both the "lords bishops and the lords brethren"; and we remark their courage, at least, as they sought suffrage, even then, in the broader places. His great distance from our times, and the few and meagre details that we have of his life, make William Blackstone an elusive wanderer in the mazes of Rehoboth history. For all purposes, it is enough to know (so far as the records assure us) that he was the first white man to retreat for settlement at Rehoboth; but we still remember how funda-



mentally Separatist he was, whether in his non-conformity to the Church of England of his day, or in his non-sympathy with his Puritan neighbors. He was the first settler within the bounds of the present Boston, or Shawmut, as then known, where he was also earliest to take the freeman's oath; and there he planted his remembered orchard and garden.

Then came Blackstone's long journey from Shawmut to the former Seekonk, where he planted new orchards and gardens, read his books on Study Hill, wrote much that, so far as is known, was not preserved, and then passed on. He did nothing more than that for Rehoboth. And who should follow him, in 1636, but Roger Williams, "arch Separatist", to stop here only a little while, to make passing friendship with Blackstone, and then on, to the founding of his Providence.

**Newman and His Co-workers.**—And meantime, came Rev. Samuel Newman, and for a more specifically town-building purpose—that of founding a settlement; though another of the hard matters for us of our luxurious times to appreciate is the fact that the Indians, as well as the white men, appeared at the time to be satisfied with the purchase from Massasoit of this territory for "ten fathoms of wampum", which is said to have been equal to fifty shillings, "with a coat thrown in." Newman was the practical founder of a township, a man of piety, the John Harvard of his group. He brought with him a number of people from Weymouth, having originally removed from Dorchester, where he had known both Blackstone and Williams.

A strict disciplinarian, as well as co-worker with his people, he with men of the name of Palmer, Wheaton, Browne, Bullock, Blanding, Bliss and others, helped clear the wilderness. We do not wonder much that Samuel Newman chose "Rehoboth" for the name of his settlement. The new and open field for his chosen work, and the broad and expansive outlook of the rolling hills of this section, combined to inspire the significance of the "broad places," which is what that Hebrew word intends to convey. Here, also, Samuel Newman completed the third Concordance of the English Bible ever in use—not the least of his labors; and it is stated that he worked far into the night, by light of a pine torch, at his task. The late Senator George Nelson Goff, a close follower of the Rehoboth history, once stated to the writer that Samuel Newman, man of affairs, had no peer in all New England as a town builder; all difficulties confronted him—a stubborn soil, the primeval forest, and a new race, the latter hard to understand and to win over. In an aside, Senator Goff remarked: "As to the 'colonial home', I have always contended that it was nothing more than the successor to the log-cabin. Long before the saw-millers or the house-framers brought out their plans, the colonists did the first and best thing they could do, and that was to cut down trees and build log huts. Then came the actual colonial homestead, like the homes of Henry T. Horton and John Henry Earle in this town—the house with the long roof sloping almost to the ground."

Rehoboth is another of those towns in this county like Freetown, from whose doors went forth a son who acquired a far greater fame than his parent. In the case of Freetown it was Fall River; in that of Rehoboth, it was Attleboro. In the first days of all, Rehoboth included what is now

Seekonk, East Providence, Pawtucket, Attleboro and North Attleboro, Cumberland, Rhode Island, and that part of old Swansea later known as Barrington, and that the Indians knew as Wannamoisett. Twenty-one years after the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, the first purchase here was made of the Chief Massasoit, in 1641, the eight miles square tract which included what is now Rehoboth, Seekonk, East Providence, and Wards One and Two of Pawtucket. The second purchase was made in 1645, by John Browne and another of Rehoboth. This was the Indian Wannamoisett, and was part of Swansea at the time of that town's incorporation in 1667. In 1747 the larger part of it was annexed to Rehoboth, and part is known today as Bullock's Point. In 1661 the North Purchase was made, and that included the present Attleboro and North Attleboro, Massachusetts, and Cumberland, Rhode Island.

Rev. Samuel Newman, actual founder of Rehoboth, was born in May, 1603, at Banbury, Oxford county, England, son of Richard Newman, a glover. He graduated from Trinity College, October 17, 1620, with honors, and later was pastor of Midhope Chapel for about ten years, in the West Riding of Yorkshire. The religious persecutions of Archbishop Laud were distasteful to him, as to many others, so that he emigrated to America. He resided four years at Dorchester, and from 1639 to 1643-4 he was pastor of the church at Weymouth. Then, with the majority of his church, and with others from Hingham, he proceeded to the Indian district called Seekonk, where, on the east bank of the Pawtucket river, he and his company made their home, calling it Rehoboth. Upon their arrival, but one other white man, namely, John Hazell, had taken up his residence on this tract, who continued to reside there, lands being granted him in 1669. It was in 1645 that the name Rehoboth was first used, the title "Seacunk" (as we find it spelled) having been in use theretofore, and the following-named were of those registered as proprietors: Mr. Alexander Winchester, Mr. Howard, Peter Hunt, William Cheesborough, Ralph Allin, John Holbrooke; John Peram, the Schoolmaster. Matthew Pratt, William Carpenter, Samuel Butterworth, Edward Patteson, James Browne, Richard Bowen, Mr. Samuel Newman, Mr. Peck, Abraham Marton, John Sutton, Robert Mortis, John Matthewes, John Fitch, Robert Titus, George Kendricke, Robert Sharpe, Thomas Bliss, the Pastor, Stephen Paine, Edward Smith, James Clarke, William Smith, the Governor, Edward Bennett, Obadiah Holmes, Mr. John Browne, Thomas Cooper, Thomas Holbrooke, Thomas Hett, John Allin, John Meggs, William Sabin, Henry Smith, Zachary Roades, Edward Gilman, Senior, Thomas Clifton, Joseph Torrey, Widow Walker, Richard Ingram, the Teacher, Thomas Loring, Ralph Shepherd, John Reade, John Miller, Richard Wright.

The record of the proceedings of the planters and proprietors, as set forth in elaborate and thorough detail in Tilton's "History of Rehoboth," and before him by Bliss, concern the viewing of the lands, the fencing in of the purchases, and of the village itself, the purchase of Wannamoisett, and the varied interests that affected the new colony in the settlement and laying out of lands, and the like. Within fifteen years two events occurred that were of vital interest to the young colony, namely, in 1649 the schism and departure of the Baptist Obadiah Holmes and his adherents; and in 1663, the arrival of Rev. John Myles and a part of his church from Swan-



sea, in Wales, whence they had been ejected for non-conformity, and who in 1667 began the town of Swansea. There is a possibility that Rehoboth might have become the State capital in 1692. Said Hon. Edwin L. Barney in his address at the time of the observance of the 250th anniversary of the settlement of the town: "What effect it would have made upon the after growth of the town and vicinity, had the State House been built here when the Massachusetts Bay and Plymouth colonies united in 1692, can only be a matter of conjecture. Boston was the largest of the one, and Rehoboth the largest of the other colony. A spirited contest was made by the aspirants of each for the honor of being the State capital; it developed that Boston had a few votes the most, and won the prize."

**Rehoboth in the Wars.**—One of the most interesting statements of history in this part of the country is that which defines the beginning and the ending of the King Philip War, the war that signified the extinction of the red race in this portion of New England, as within the borders of old Rehoboth. The hostilities started June 24, 1675, in Swansea, on Rehoboth borders, and were brought to a close August 28, 1676, by the capture of Anawan, at Rehoboth. In the course of that conflict, there was a time when not a residence was left standing in Rehoboth, the garrisons only remaining. The story of the war is told in full in the introduction to this present work, and only the events of the war that attach to Rehoboth will be referred to here. On Fast Day, therefore, June 24, 1675, one man was killed and two were wounded by pillaging Indians, at Swansea, and later on in that day seven others met their death. That was the beginning, and from that time onwards the people began to barricade their homes and to retreat for greater safety to the garrison houses. Again, while a body of retreating Indians were crossing the Seekonk Plain, in Rehoboth, twelve of them were killed by settlers and Indians.

Fifteen soldiers from Rehoboth were in the Narragansett fight; and it is stated that John Fitz, Jr., and John Miller, Jr., were slain in the fight at Seekonk Common, in Rehoboth, March 26, 1676, Captain Michael Pierce's force being outnumbered by many hundreds of Indians. A tablet at Central Falls, Rhode Island, marks the place of Pierce's fight. Two days afterward, on March 28, the Indians burned forty houses and thirty barns, the garrison house only being spared. Robert Beers, an Irish brickmaker, was killed. In June, 1676, Nehemiah Sabin was killed. After the death of King Philip on August 12, 1676, and the inhuman treatment of that chief's body by Captain Benjamin Church, the final tragedy in the war took place at Anawan's Rock, ever famous in this town on that account, when on August 28, Anawan, commander of the last of Philip's forces, was taken. In spite of Church's promises of intercession, Anawan was executed by the English, at Plymouth. "a dastardly act," says Francis Baylies, "which disgraced the government." Thus and here was brought to an end that pathetic war.

Patriotism had the true ring from the beginning and throughout the Revolution in this town, the Committee of Correspondence and Safety, including Ephraim Starkweather, Nathan Daggett, Thomas Carpenter 3d. John Lyon, Joseph Bridgham and William Cole, indicating to Captain Joseph Barney, the town's representative, an indubitable statement of the

town's rights and privileges. Two companies were raised in the town; large quantities of saltpetre were manufactured here; soldiers' families were provided for; the town's quota of beef, amounting to 42,106 pounds, was raised. More than 1,400 Rehoboth soldiers took part in the Revolution, Rehoboth men most prominent in that war including the following-named: Ephraim Starkweather, confidential adviser of Governor John Hancock; Eliphalet Slack, lieutenant-colonel in the militia; James Bliss, surgeon in the Revolutionary army; Abiah Bliss, Thomas Bowen, Shubael Peck, Abraham Ormsbe, colonels in militia; Thomas Carpenter (3d), and Timothy Walker, colonels in the Revolution; Phanael Bishop, Jesse Perin, Silvanus Martin, Joseph Wilmarth, captains in the Revolutionary army.

The proceedings of the town throughout the Civil War were in conformity with those of every wide-awake town in the North for the preservation of the Union. From May 1, 1861, and onwards, town meetings were held to secure the raising of quotas for army and supplies, and to pledge bounties for enlisting men. One hundred and sixty-three men from this town served in army and navy, and Rehoboth appropriated and expended on account of the war, exclusive of State aid, \$31,032.26, and for State aid to soldiers, afterwards repaid by the State, \$6,271.62. The women, too, through the Home Circle and the Congregational Church Home Circle, were tireless in their task of contributing clothing for the need of the soldiers.

The Rehoboth Auxiliary of the Taunton Red Cross Chapter was organized May 12, 1917, and there were 31 men from this town in the national army in 1918.

**Churches and Schools.**—The story of the coming of the first minister, Rev. Samuel Newman, in 1643, is an essential portion of the narrative of the town's beginnings, and substantially we have recounted the features of the first settlement, and its religious and civic provision. The death of Rev. Noah Newman, second minister of the church here, took place April 16, 1678, and Samuel Angier was called to the office of minister. He was a graduate of Harvard College, and a member of the board of fellows of that institution. Thomas Greenwood succeeded him as minister in October of 1693, and he also taught school. A new meeting house was built in 1716, and in 1718 the Palmer's River community built a meeting house. The Rev. Thomas Greenwood died September 8, 1720, and his son, Rev. John Greenwood, became settled as pastor of the west part of the town. Upon the completion of the meeting house at Palmer's River, Rev. David Turner, of Scituate, was ordained the minister on November 29, 1721; he had also made some study of medicine. Mr. Greenwood died December 1, 1766, and he was succeeded by Rev. John Carnes, April 18, 1759. He was dismissed by request December 4, 1764. Rev. Ephraim Hyde was ordained pastor of the First Congregational Church May 14, 1766. He died October 11, 1783, and was succeeded by Rev. John Ellis, who had been in the American army as chaplain throughout the war. At his own request, he was dismissed as pastor of the church in 1796. Under this pastorate, a bitter controversy was started, owing to the failure of the precinct system of the time to raise money to pay the pastor, and the repudiation of the tax by religious bodies other than Congregationalists. Mr. Ellis was suc-



ceeded by Rev. John Hill, from 1802 to 1816. June 23, 1782, the society had been incorporated as the Congregational Society of the first precinct of the town of Rehoboth, and the old act of 1762, incorporating the first precinct, was repealed. It was during Rev. Mr. Hill's pastorate that the town was divided (in 1812), when the Newman church narrative was no longer a part of Rehoboth's story.

The Congregational church at Palmer's River, with a membership of ten, was organized November 29, 1721, and as has been stated, Rev. David Turner was settled as the pastor. He graduated at Harvard College in 1718, and was pastor here thirty-six years, his annual salary averaging £85. The church and congregation were incorporated as the Second Precinct of Rehoboth in 1759. Mr. Turner died August 9, 1757, and Rev. Robert Rogerson was called as pastor February 29, 1759, £60 being his annual salary, in addition to a settlement of £70. The old meetinghouse was torn down in 1773, the site now being known as the Village Cemetery. The "Yellow Meetinghouse," as it was called, was built immediately; it was fifty by forty feet in dimensions, was without steeple or bell, and stood next east of the graveyard, facing the south.

Other sects increasing in the town, by request of the society an act was passed in 1792 incorporating the Congregationalists as "The Catholic Congregational Church and Society in the Second Precinct in Rehoboth"; though since that time the word "Catholic" has been stricken from the title. Rev. Mr. Rogerson, who received the M. A. degree from Harvard in 1765, was pastor of this Second Congregational Church forty years, or until his death, March 20, 1799. Rev. Otis Thompson was ordained minister here September 24, 1800, and so continued for twenty-five years. By reason of his arbitrary disposition and bitter controversies appertaining thereto, Mr. Thompson was dismissed from the pastorate October 30, 1832. He was succeeded by Rev. Thomas Vernon of Newport, Rhode Island, who graduated in Brown University in 1816, and studied at Andover Theological Seminary. He was ordained over this church from September, 1826, while Mr. Thompson still held to the pastorate. The Sunday school was started during his ministry. He resigned in 1837, and he was succeeded in 1838 by Rev. John Chester Paine, and the new church building was dedicated in 1839, its cost having been \$3,800. Meantime the "Yellow Meetinghouse" was purchased by Otis Goff, who reconstructed the building into a barn. Mr. Paine's successor was Rev. Charles P. Grosvenor, who was pastor here from September, 1847, to September, 1856. The present parsonage was built in 1849. The pastors succeeding Mr. Grosvenor were as follows: Rev. Walter P. Doe, 1857-59; Rev. Alexander C. Childs, 1860-62; Rev. S. Y. Lum, 1862-64; Rev. Francis H. Boynton, 1864-67; Rev. Henry Johnson, 1868-69; Rev. Henry D. Woodworth, 1869-72; Rev. Isaac R. Prior, 1873-77; Rev. George Henry Tilton, 1877-91 (he was chairman of the school committee in 1885-86; founder of the Rehoboth Antiquarian Society, which was organized March 5, 1884; writer of the history of the church in the earlier history of the county, and of the "History of Rehoboth"); Rev. Cyrus D. Harp, 1892-95; Rev. Charles B. Wathen, 1896-1908 (it was during his ministry that the church was renovated at a cost of more than \$2,000, in 1906, and the memorial windows placed in the church); Rev. Joseph W. Strout, 1909-15; Rev. Henry E. Oxnard, 1916—. In 1900, Paschal Allen be-

queathed the church a legacy of \$1,500; and in 1909 Hon. Edmund E. Peck gave the church a beautifully carved chair in memory of his ancestors who had resided in Rehoboth.

Baptist organizations sprang up almost magically in less than a century after the town was founded, there being seven Baptist churches here by the year 1794, though it is recorded that there had been Baptists here since 1650. The Oak Swamp Church that was adherent to the Six Principle Baptists, was gathered in 1732 by Rev. John Comer; he was succeeded by Nathaniel Millard, 1736-42; Elder Samuel Maxwell, 1745; Elder Richard Round to 1768. In 1773 this church was reorganized under open communion principles, with Jacob Hix as pastor.

The first of the Oak Swamp meetinghouses stood at the junction of Chestnut and Pleasant streets. It was from the time of the ministry of Rev. Jacob Hix that his church was called the First Christian Church of Rehoboth. He was succeeded by Elder Childs Luther, 1812-41, and it was during his pastorate in 1834 that the present house was built by a joint stock company and dedicated. Other ministers in succession have been; Elders Matthias E. Gammons, 1842-45 (during whose pastorate the church organized itself as a Christian Union church); James L. Pierce, Otis Bliss, Waterman Pierce, J. W. Osborne, William Miller, Lester Howard (the meetinghouse being rededicated in 1889); T. S. Weeks, C. B. Wathen, Albert Loucks, Ernest Caswell, Frederick Dark.

The Hornbine Church—the name being a phonetic change from hornbeam, a tree of smooth, gray wood and hard, white wood that grows in the neighborhood—then of the Six-Principle creed, was formed in 1753, the first pastor being Daniel Martin. Soon afterwards, Elder Nathan Pierce was ordained as his assistant, and he remained with this people forty years. Those who have followed have been: Elders Thomas Seamans, Preserved Pierce, William Manchester, Joseph Blackmar, Otis Potter, Elders Warner and Morton, Samuel Knight, Waterman Pierce, Welcome G. Comstock, William Miller, George H. Horton, who secured the substitution of the Free Baptist creed, the church then becoming affiliated with the Free Baptist Association of Rhode Island. Other pastors have been as follows: Revs. L. B. Rose, B. A. Sherwood, R. I. Hudson, George E. Hathaway, S. H. McKean, W. A. Leonard, Walter Bartlett, John P. Richardson. It was at about the beginning of the Civil War that the Hornbine people formed the organization styled the First Baptist Church and Society, and established the famous clambakes at Baker's Grove, near the church. In 1886 the Antiquarian bake was begun near the village. The almost equally famous Columbus bake was started in 1911.

The Anawan Union Baptist Society was organized in the spring of 1840, the meetings being held at the Lewis Tavern. Caleb Blood was ordained as the first pastor, and he dedicated the new meetinghouse, November 25, 1840. Twenty or more pastors and acting pastors served this church. In 1908 the remaining members of the society donated their building to Anawan Grange.

The "Irons", or Free-Will Baptist Church, was organized October 2, 1777, with thirty-one members, in the north part of the town, and with Elder James Sheldon as the first pastor. He was succeeded by Elder Jeremiah Irons, the church then becoming known as the Irons church. About



the year 1822, the church was denominated the First Free-Will Baptist Church in Rehoboth, becoming connected with the Rhode Island quarterly meeting. The second house of this church was dedicated July 4, 1837. In 1892, the church was permanently closed, and it was finally taken down.

The Methodist Episcopal church had its beginning here with the Six-Principle Baptist Church formed in this town near Stevens' corner, about 1740. In 1824 a new meetinghouse was built on the Norton road, where Rev. Lorenzo Dow Johnson and others preached for several years. The present church building was erected in 1843, and in 1849 the church entered the Methodist Episcopal order. The pastoral list is a long one, including S. W. Coggeshall and G. W. King, both authors and able preachers.

Another of the many small religious congregations of this town of many churches and creeds, was Elder Peck's church, that stood in the eastern part of Seekonk, and was taken down in 1815. Elder Samuel Peck, grandson of one of the first settlers of Rehoboth, was the minister.

Rehoboth, December 10, 1643, made the first provision that has been recorded for free public schools by taxation, and among the first teachers were the following named: Edward Howard, Robert Dickson, Rev. Thomas Greenwood. In 1789, when the districts were authorized by law, Rehoboth was divided into fifteen districts, the district system being abolished by the State in 1883. One of the most noted district school teachers in New England was Thomas W. Bicknell, who as teacher in the Red School of this town gave a new inspiration to school life here, that did not confine itself to the town but made its influence felt throughout this part of the State. In 1856 he inaugurated high school studies, and his pupils became some of the most prominent men in this part of the State. The Central School was started in September, 1885, in which the children of four districts were brought together in Antiquarian Hall. In June, 1922, there were 463 pupils enrolled in Rehoboth schools; seventeen pupils were attending high school in Attleboro; eighteen in Taunton, and thirty-eight in Fall River.

**The Town and Officiary.**—The "Fighting Town Meeting" of May, 1811, was the most pugnacious event that had ever taken place in the annals of the town, when blows were aimed and furniture broken, in the celebrated case of the remonstrance of Stephen Bullock and four hundred and three others against the election of Elkanah French, Caleb Abell, John Medbury Sebra Lawton and Timothy Walker, returned as members of the General Court from the town, the committee concluding in their report that the supposed election was "altogether void and of no effect."

The west part of the town was incorporated into a separate township in 1812, with the name of Seekonk, in token of the earlier name of the section, though the majority of the town was opposed to the division.

The town clerks from the beginning have been as follows: Peter Hunt was elected to the office in 1651, though William Carpenter was keeper of the town records from 1643 to 1649. In succession were the following-named: Richard Bowen, chosen in September, 1654; Richard Bullock, January, 1659; William Carpenter, Jr., May, 1668 to 1698; Stephen Paine supplying to March, 1703; Daniel Carpenter, 1703; Daniel Smith, 1706; Daniel Carpenter, March, 1708; Ezekiel Read in 1730 and to 1762, with the excep-

tion of the years 1751, 1752 and 1753; Jesse Perin, March, 1762; Lieutenant Philip Walker, March, 1787; Captain Caleb Abell, 1801 to 1812, when he continued in the same office in Seekonk; James Blanding, 1812; Cyrus M. Wheaton, April 4, 1836; Asaph L. Bliss, March 2, 1840; Noah Holt, March 3, 1845; George W. Bliss, March 1, 1847; Cyrus M. Wheaton, March 1, 1848; William H. Luther, March 1, 1875; Ellery L. Goff, April 22, 1893.

The town treasurers have been: John Hunt, 1745; Thomas Carpenter, 1752; John Hunt, 1755; James Daggett, 1762; John Lindley, 1764; Elkanah French, 1782; Peter Hunt, 1786; Joseph Wilmarth, 1787; Peter Hunt, 1798; Captain Abel Cole, 1809; Noah Brown, 1811; Captain Abel Bliss, 1812; Edward Mason, 1827; Christopher Carpenter, Jr., 1828; William Marvel, 1831; Joseph Lake, 1841; William Marvel (2d), 1844; John C. Marvel, 1849; Samuel H. Viall, 1853; George H. Carpenter, 1856; John C. Marvel, 1868; Ira S. Baker, 1869; James H. Perry, 1870; Ira S. Baker, 1871; William W. Blanding, 1872; DeWitt C. Carpenter, 1875; John C. Marvel, 1884; William W. Blanding, 1890; Adin B. Horton, 1894; Albert C. Goff, 1909.

**Institutes and Clubs.**—The Rehoboth Institute for Mutual Improvement was formed November 19, 1846, with Jonathan Wheaton as president, and John C. Marvel as secretary. The Rehoboth Lyceum Association was organized December 20, 1882, with Rev. George H. Tilton as president and C. C. Viall as secretary.

The Rehoboth Antiquarian Society, a noted foundation for the preservation of relics and writings of this section was incorporated in 1885, the project having been started by Rev. George H. Tilton, and furthered and largely financed by George N. and Darius Goff. February 26, 1886, the Blanding Public Library of Rehoboth with 625 volumes was started by Hon. and Mrs. Thomas W. Bicknell. The first Goff Memorial building was dedicated May 10, 1886, and was destroyed by lightning July 7, 1911; the present building, the new Goff Memorial, was dedicated May 10, 1915, the gift of Darius and Lyman B. Goff, in honor of their father, Darius Goff; the building cost \$35,000. The Antiquarian Society had its first clambake Tuesday, August 24, 1886. The officers in 1923: President, Ellery L. Goff; vice-presidents: Henry T. Horton and Enoch A. Carpenter; secretary, Harold A. Goff; treasurer, George H. Browne; librarian, E. G. Fuller.

A farmers' club was formed at Briggs' Corner February 11, 1874, with Julian Anness as the prime mover. The name chosen for the club was the Briggsville and North Rehoboth Farmers' Club, and the officers were: President, Francis A. Bliss; vice-president, Rev. Gardiner Clark; secretary, Julian Anness; treasurer, Ira Perry. After some years the name was changed to the Rehoboth Farmers' Club, with Thomas R. Salsbury as secretary, and J. F. Moulton as treasurer.

Anawan Grange was established February 22, 1898, the first officers being: Master, Fred U. Cory; overseer, Arthur C. Goff; lecturer, Amelia H. Carpenter; steward, Frank A. Goff; secretary, E. Gertrude Hobbs; treasurer, Joseph F. Earle; chaplain, Almon A. Reed. The Grange came into possession of the Baptist meetinghouse, April 28, 1908.

The Anawan Club owns two hundred acres including Anawan Lake. The location is near Hill Crest, the clubhouse standing on the edge of the lake. The club was chartered in September, 1898, by Rhode Island men.



**Industries.**—In 1809 the Rehoboth Union Manufacturing Company, manufacturing cotton yarn, built a cotton mill, equipped with 360 spindles. The company was formed August 24 that year by Richard Goff, Dexter Wheeler and Stephen, Thomas, James and Peter Wheeler. In November, 1835, the firm sold out to Nelson and Darius Goff, who began to manufacture cotton batting. A new firm was started in 1842, when E. A. Brown bought out the interest of Nelson Goff, Goff & Brown then adding the manufacture of ball and carpet twine. Like many another of the contemporary plants hereabouts, this one then frequently changed hands, thus: Goff & Brown in 1868 deeded the property to John D. Cranston. Then Darius Goff became owner, with John C. Marvel as partner. Goff and Marvel in 1870 deeded the privilege to William W. Johnston, but the plant being mortgaged back, the firm foreclosed in 1875. Goff & Marvel sold to Hargraves Heap. He sold in 1879 to William H. Bowen, and he to Charles F. Easton. In 1887 John C. Marvel became the owner, and in 1898 J. F. Shaw & Company bought the privilege for the Bay State Street Railway Company. The old mill was then demolished.

For a century and a half a grist mill stood where the road crosses the upper end of the pond. On its site a cotton mill for the manufacture of yarn was erected in 1810, the company styling themselves the Palmer's River Manufacturing Company. In 1822 the property was sold to Nathaniel and Ebenezer Ide of Attleboro; and in 1824 it went into the hands of Abraham and Isaac Wilkinson of Pawtucket. David and A. and I. Wilkinson purchased the property in 1826. The Rehoboth Woolen Company was then formed, and arrangements were made to forward the business, but it was abandoned, and the same year the Orleans Manufacturing Company was formed, consisting of Benjamin Peck and David Wilkinson & Company. The firm used New Orleans cottons, hence the name. Crawford Allen leased the mill upon the assignment of the firm in 1829, and it was then sold to Benjamin Peck. The mill was destroyed by fire in November, 1831; but the following year it was rebuilt of stone. Mr. Peck operated the mill until 1861, but after the Civil War the company never resumed. In 1865, Nathaniel C. Guild manufactured print cloths, continuing until 1869, and from then until 1874 hosiery was manufactured here. The mill was idle until 1875, when it was purchased by the Cutler Manufacturing Company, making a specialty of hosiery yarn. The factory was burned March 5, 1884, with a loss of \$25,000, only the walls being left standing. The Bristol and Warren Water Works bought the Orleans Mills property in March, 1911. At Perryville, Ezra Perry made the first bobbins for cotton factories in the country; and later his sons established turning shops and grist-mills. Members of the Peck family had an iron-forging plant near Great Meadow before the middle of the eighteenth century.

---

## CHAPTER XIII.

### SEEKONK

Every step of the pioneers is sought with greatest care by researchers, and because of the fact that Rogers Williams, founder of Providence, Rhode Island, spent the spring months of the year 1636 within the terri-

tory of Seekonk, just before he went on to his permanent settlement of Providence, the section that still retains the old Indian name feels specially honored. Seekonk (and there were various other spellings) was thus known long before the white men came; and up to 1645, Rev. Samuel Newman and his followers called the territory "Seekonk", before they eventually decided upon "Rehoboth". From 1643, therefore, the year of the first permanent settlement, to 1812, the story of Rehoboth and of Seekonk is to be read as one and the same.

The little town by the side of the Providence turnpike and the Fall River and Providence highways, felicitates itself upon having shared in very substantial old historical events, although its inhabitants to this day have never quite assured themselves that radical changes in State or town boundaries have left them anything approaching a sufficiency of their former rights. No one can estimate for how long the Indians had known these lands as Seekonk, the "place of black water-fowl," when the extent of the territory was bounded only by the Providence River and the Plymouth Colony, and the town's regard for the memory of that wide province is perennial.

Not only is it a satisfaction to this township that it perpetuates the ancient name, but also that territorially it formerly participated in all the progressive proceedings of the far-sighted first settlers, from Rev. Samuel Newman, onwards. It took part in the establishment of the first free public school, and concerning that original institute, a passage from the "Digest of the Statutes of Massachusetts," compiled in 1892, reads: "The act of 1647 made the support of public schools compulsory, and education universal and free. As this was the first law of the kind ever passed by any community or by any State, Massachusetts may claim the honor of having originated the free public school." Yet even better than that, for the Seekonk measure of 1643 provided for the taxation of all citizens for the support of the schoolmaster, whether they had children to educate or not.

The history of territorial division of eastern Massachusetts during the first one hundred and fifty years of the formation of settlements and townships would prove a valuable volume of reference of itself, a task that still remains for some compiler. The divisions of old Taunton and of old Rehoboth and Seekonk would have a large share in such a work—Seekonk comprising part of the third division of Rehoboth.

Even then, it has often been asserted, Seekonk held out great promise of being a very influential part of the county, up to the time, in 1862, when the western portion of its land was transferred to Rhode Island by the establishment of the new line between the States. By that definition of boundary, passed that portion of the territory that invited the earliest settlers here. Eventually, then, Seekonk was set off from Rehoboth, and incorporated as a separate town, February 26, 1812, and Elkanah French, Esquire, was authorized to issue the first town warrant. The first town meeting was held in the old meetinghouse March 16, 1812, and a moderator chosen was Caleb Abell, who was also elected town clerk, and Captain Allen Cole was first town treasurer. The first of the selectmen, chosen March 23, were Peter Hunt, Worcester Carpenter and Allen Monroe. In October of that year, the sum of \$350 was voted for the support of the



public schools, and the year following, according to the custom in all towns of the period it was voted to put out "the poor persons belonging to the town of Seekonk at auction to the lowest bidder." The fortification at Kettle Point, then of old Seekonk, was raised in 1814. The first townhouse of Seekonk, now in East Providence, was built in 1814, and the first town meeting there was held November 7, 1814. As early as 1827, Pawtucket Village sought to be set off as a separate town, but the measure was voted against by Seekonk town meeting, that year.

The town officials approved of the doings of their selectmen in returning innholders and retailers to the county commissioners to be licensed, for at a meeting held April 28, 1834, it was voted that "the public good and convenience required there should be such innholders in the town." And the same year it was voted that "if the Boston and Providence Railroad Company will build a bridge over the railroad near the common, and cause all the necessary roads leading to it to be laid out at their expense and give the town a bonus of one thousand dollars, in that case the selectmen are authorized to make a contract with the proper agent of the railroad."

Then, on March 1, 1862, occurred that final divisional event that narrowed the confines of the town to present dimensions—and with a population of only 800 at the time. The dispute between the States of Massachusetts and Rhode Island with regard to this boundary line had been tedious and long-drawn-out, but the influence of Providence and Fall River prevailed in the final settlement of the dispute, when a conventional line was adopted setting the whole of Pawtucket and that portion of Seekonk now East Providence into Rhode Island, Massachusetts at the same time receiving territory from Rhode Island adjacent to Fall River.

**Churches and Schools.**—With the history of Rehoboth was recounted the story of the Newman Congregational Church, whose beginnings were without doubt within the old Seekonk bounds, the territory retaining that name for two years before it was called Rehoboth by Mr. Newman. With the division of the town of Seekonk, again, in 1812, the old Congregational foundation found itself an East Providence, Rhode Island, possession.

The religious body known as the Baptist Church of Jesus Christ, of the First Precinct of Rehoboth, which was formed November 27, 1794, has, with the division of States and townships, changed its title upon three different occasions. Up to the year 1812, it was known by the above name. Again, on June 27, 1812, the name of the church was changed to that of the Baptist Church of Seekonk, as the west part of Rehoboth had by act of Legislature been incorporated into a town by that name in February, 1812. While this status prevailed, in 1836, the church withdrew from the Warren association, and joined with another church, in Bristol county, in forming the Taunton association. Finally, August 30, 1862, the church voted to withdraw from the Taunton association, and rejoin the Warren association, as that part of Seekonk where the church was had been set to Rhode Island that year.

The Hebron Church in the north part of the town that is administered by Methodist Episcopalians, is an outcome of the Hebron church that formerly stood within the boundary of Attleboro and that was organized in 1827. A church building, within Seekonk, was erected in 1870; that edifice

was burned in 1875, and another was built and dedicated August 6, the same year.

Within recent years, a Congregational church was organized at Luther's Corner, of which Rev. Frank Casson was pastor in 1923. A Portuguese Catholic church was organized in the north part of the town in 1915. The cornerstone of the Church of the Holy Nativity, Episcopal, was laid August 25, 1923.

The school history of the town is one with that of Rehoboth and East Providence as to its beginnings. In 1923, there were 783 pupils in the local schools, while seventy-five from this town were attending high schools in other places. In union with Rehoboth, A. Howard Wilkinson was superintendent of schools. The Seekonk Teachers' Association, organized in 1917, had forty members in 1923, and the president of the association was Miss Jessie Gray. The town schools are as follows: District 1, built in 1912; North End Grammar and Primary, built in 1913; Pleasant Street School, built in 1913; Newman Avenue School, built in 1918.

**The Township.**—At the time of the division, and the transferral of the Town Hall to East Providence, town meetings began to be held in a schoolhouse near the State line, later in a schoolhouse on Arcade avenue. The present Town House on the Providence turnpike was built in 1912. Jonathan Chaffee was the first town clerk, in 1862, Andrew Medbury succeeded him from 1880 to 1886. Asaph Hill has occupied that office the past thirty-seven years, and he was chosen the committee to secure the present town seal. The town of Seekonk today is yet another of those old townships past whose doors business and greater town construction enterprises have passed for close onto three hundred years; where very few old homes have clung, but where a number of more modern settlements have been begun. It is mostly an agricultural community, the dimensions of the town in length being ten miles and the greatest width two and one-quarter miles. The population is approximately 2,800; the total valuation of personal property being placed at \$412,799; that upon real estate, \$2,864, 670. The centre of the town is at Luther's Corner, where most of the business, schools, churches, and the old tavern are situated. The Luther's Corner Fire and Library Association is here, having been established in 1908. The Nathan Monroe Tavern is the same that stood here during the stage-coach period, about 1800. The only industry of a manufacturing sort is the Kent Manufacturing Company, producers of tennis racquets and croquet sets. They employ twenty-five or thirty hands. Elijah Kent, the founder, formerly had a grist mill on the location. The loss incurred by the division was not a small one to this town, for not only the Town Hall but the Congregational and Baptist churches and some of the school districts became transferred to another State. From Seekonk there went into Rhode Island two-thirds of the town's valuation, more than two-thirds of the population, and approximately one-half of the town's territory; and whatever manufacturing interests the town then had became part of the new towns.

The Indian wars, the Revolutionary and 1812 wars were shared alike by Rehoboth and Seekonk. The town stood valiantly by the soldier of the Civil War, Seekonk filling her quota in full, forty-one men enlisting from here, and eight from here enlisting in other places. The bounty paid by



the town was generally higher than that in other towns. In the World War, 108 men from this town were in the service, and their names are on the town's honor roll. During the drives for money and men for Seekonk, Raymond Nickerson was in charge of the various committees.

---

## CHAPTER XIV.

### SOMERSET

Again, one finds in Somerset, an eastern river town of the county, one of those old New England settlements whose division was brought about from a mother township, Swansea. Distances seemed longer then, the modes of conveyance being of slow progress; and the petition of the townsmen at Shawomet to the effect that that part of the town along the river be set off from Swansea was evidently made, in part at least, for the purpose of saving extensive traveling to town centre and meeting over those high hills, or by water. The petition for the new town, that was made November 2, 1720, was voted down in town meeting; and again four years afterwards, the petition was rejected. But eventually, Shawomet (and there are many spellings of the Indian name) became the separate town of Somerset, February 20, 1790. On December 15 that year, the first town meeting was held at the schoolhouse near Captain Robert Gibbs' and the first town clerk was Jonathan Bowers.

Massasoit, some years before his death, had granted the Plymouth people the privilege of establishing a trading house on the river at "Storehouse Point" as it was called, within the limits of the present town of Somerset. Originally the territory was known as the Shawomet lands, all of which became a part of Swansea when the latter town was incorporated, the first record book of whose purchase is extant as it was kept by Increase Robinson, the clerk. The first purchasers of this section of the county were as follows: Richard Dwelly, Isaac Buck, Daniel Damon, Nathaniel Winslow, Samuel Prince, W. Briggs, Jr., C. Briggs, Jonathan Aldin, Captain John Williams, Isaac Little, Edward Grey, M. Halloway, John Briggs, Richard Winslow, Thomas Lincoln, John Swift, Captain Fuller, John McNuckley, Jonathan Jackson, Richard Pronby, Ephraim Little, Samuel Little, John Mendall, William Hatch, William Poaks, Joseph Wod, Daniel Wod, Cornelius Briggs, Increase Robinson, Thomas Peirce, John James, Governor Winslow, Captain Benjamin Church.

The estimated population of the town of Somerset in 1922 was 3,650, and the number of dwelling houses was 884. The valuation of real estate at the time was \$2,469,250; of personal estate \$523,383, the total being \$2,992,633. The town clerk and treasurer was G. Walter Simmons; selectmen, Franklin S. Simmons, Fernald L. Hanson, Adam W. Gifford.

The town's patriotism has stood the test both in war and peace. There were 115 men from here in Civil War service. The town sent 156 men to the World War service, and gave generously for all demands in Red Cross and all other drives. Welcome Home Day, August 28, 1919, presented an extensive programme, with the unveiling of the honor roll.

**Schools and Churches.**—The first schoolmaster made note of in this part of the county was William Hart, who is first mentioned in March, 1735, and who was teacher here for twenty years. The estimated expenses for the maintenance of Somerset's schools for 1923 was \$48,200, the total number attending school being 998. An evening high school for non-English-speaking men was started in February, 1922. A school nurse and a resident school physician were employed that year. The schools in the town are: High school, Elm street, Dublin primary, North primary, Pottersville grammar and primary, Sherman Somerset grammar, South grammar and primary, and Wilbur. Horace Freeman Bates is school superintendent.

Friends or Quakers, were found settled in this town, then a part of Swansea, in the early part of the seventeenth century, but with no meeting-house. A report was made of that fact before the quarterly meeting in Rhode Island in 1732, and as a result, that year the first meeting was held at the present Somerset. Their meetinghouse is the oldest in this section, the meetings having been held continuously to the present. Rev. Frank E. Jones is the minister.

The first of the Baptist arrivals within the present Somerset was Nathaniel Lyons, who came here in 1796. First of the Baptist meetings were held at the homes of the townsmen and in schoolhouses, but eventually a church of that denomination was organized November 8, 1803, and a meetinghouse was completed in 1804 and dedicated November 8 that year. This Baptist meeting united with the Warren Association in 1804, but in 1836 they withdrew and joined the Taunton Association that had just formed as a Baptist association of churches. The first preacher was Rev. William Barton. He was succeeded by the following-named: Revs. Elisha Slade, 1823; Benjamin C. Grafton, 1843; Charles Randall, 1849; J. C. Merrill, 1852; Samuel J. Carr, 1856; George Daland, 1860; T. C. Tingley, 1863; L. L. Fittz, 1869; T. M. Butler, 1874; Gideon Cole, 1876. Rev. William Pease began his pastorate at the Baptist church in May, 1884; Rev. D. L. Crafts, January 1, 1887; Rev. Albert D. Spaulding, April 1, 1889-92; Rev. Joseph R. Verry, March, 1893-97; Rev. T. O. Harlow, August 1, 1887-December 31, 1900; Fred W. Webb, February 25, 1900-July 13, 1902; Fred W. Buis, 1902-03; H. Schuyler Foster, 1903-07; Edward L. Krumreig, 1907-10; George Keirsted, 1910-12; Rev. Charles Wheeler, July 28, 1912; Rev. B. Scott, 1915; Benjamin W. Riner, chaplain in World War, 1919; Arthur Eastman, 1921; Edward A. Mason.

The pioneer Methodist preacher to this section was Rev. Joseph Snelling, and he organized the first Methodist class here at the home of his friend, John Wilbour. In 1804 the first Methodist place of worship in South Somerset was dedicated by Rev. Alexander McLane, a house that did service for this people for forty-five years. In 1849, the old edifice was torn down, while Rev. E. B. Hinckley was the pastor, and the present church building was erected and dedicated. In 1861 the parsonage was built. This church was burned in 1889, and a new building erected that year. The Methodist church in the centre of Somerset was organized in 1841, and in 1842 a church edifice was erected and dedicated.

The First Christian Church in Somerset was organized in 1841, by Rev. Mr. Shurtleff. Rev. Frank H. Gardner was pastor in 1923.

In 1861 a number of seceders from the Methodist church in Somerset



formed a Congregational church, their first place of worship being in Central Hall. Twenty-two persons presented themselves at a meeting of prominent clergymen, July 3, 1861, and formed the First Congregational Church, South Somerset, and in March, 1865, their church was dedicated. The first minister was Rev. Charles D. Lathrop.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church was begun here in the early seventies, and the church was built in 1875, the first pastor being Rev. Father William H. Bric. Rev. Father William F. Sullivan was the pastor in 1923.

The Mission Church of Our Savior (Episcopal) was established here within recent years, Rev. J. Wynne Jones, pastor.

A Portuguese Baptist church was organized in 1910. The Congregational and the Baptist churches federated in 1912, and the M. E. Church joined that federation in 1922. Their denominational and missionary interests are separate, but their general treasury and their clerical activities are one. Rev. E. A. Mason was the pastor in 1923.

Through the influence of Mrs. Abby Morrill, president of the Old Colony Branch of the Woman's Board of Missions, a parish and community house was recently established in the town on School street.

**Miscellaneous.**—The Library building was built in 1910, the gift of Mrs. Sarah A. Hood, through her son, Alfred H. Hood. The librarians have been Miss F. B. Wood and Miss Ella Roberts. Before the present building was erected, the library was kept in the building now occupied by Sonion's Market.

The patriotic and fraternal organizations are as follows: Cyrus M. Wheaton Post, G. A. R., organized October 16, 1885; Cyrus M. Wheaton W. R. C., No. 131; and a camp of the Sons of Veterans. Warren S. Hathaway Post of the American Legion, of which Samuel W. Gibbs was commander in 1923, was named in honor of a soldier who was a Quaker, but who gave his life for the service, in France.

The Masons are represented by Pioneer Lodge, A. F. and A. M., and Star of Bethlehem Lodge, Order of the Eastern Star. The cornerstone of the Masonic building was laid in 1923. Elysian Lodge, No. 73, I. O. O. F., was organized in 1886. Herbert E. Goff was noble grand in 1923. Somerset grange was organized in 1888, with forty charter members. There were seventy members in 1923. Daniel P. Shove was the master; Louis A. Davis, secretary.

For a long period of years, Somerset was one of the principal shipping ports on the Taunton river, when many men were employed in the business of loading and unloading cargoes of coal and other commodities, the quantity at one time amounting to hundreds of tons annually. For ten years or so, beginning with the year 1849, ship-building was one of the town's leading industries, the main shipyard of the community being situated on the site of the old iron works, where, among others, several large government vessels were built.

The Somerset Iron Works Company, with William S. Ferguson as agent and treasurer, was organized in 1853, for the manufacture of ship anchors, etc., but after running for two years the enterprise came to an end. Albert Field and J. M. Leonard purchased the property in 1855, and began the business known as the Mount Hope Iron Works Company, with

its rolling mill and nail factory. This proved a successful venture up to the year 1866, when nearly the entire plant was destroyed by fire. But about a year afterwards, the buildings were rebuilt, and the mill was greatly improved. In 1871 the firm sold out to the Parker Mills of Wareham, this State, the business being conducted with much success to the year 1878. Again, in 1881, the Old Colony Iron Company took charge of the plant, and ran the works for a number of years, employing about 500 men. The New England Shellac Works now owns this property.

The Boston Stove Foundry, organized for the manufacture of stoves and hollow-ware, located here in 1854. Financially, this company did not prove a success. In October, 1867, the Somerset Co-operative Stove Foundry was formed, with a capital of \$15,000, soon afterwards increased to \$30,000. They manufactured ranges, cooking, parlor and office stoves. A few years ago they went out of business. At Pottersville, members of the Chase family many years ago began the business of making earthen and stone-ware pottery. The Somerset Pottery Company was organized there in 1847. The business went into other hands in 1882, and is not now active.

The Montaup Electric Company was organized in 1923, by interests controlling the Edison Electric Illuminating Company of Brockton, the Fall River Electric Company and the Blackstone Valley Gas and Electric Company, to enable these three companies to erect and maintain a large electric plant at Somerset, to supply electricity to them at lower rates and in larger quantities than could be provided in their own plants, the cost of the proposed plant to be in the neighborhood of \$7,000,000.

---

## CHAPTER XV.

### SWANSEA

Every topographical feature of hill, vale, pasture, river and seashore, combines in the unsurpassed rural setting in which the town of Swansea finds itself today, a town of slow growth, but one in which dwells enduring respect for and recognition of the historical beginning and progress of the county. The town is in the southwest part of Bristol county, with Seekonk, Rehoboth and Dighton on the north, Dighton and Somerset on the east, and Somerset and Mount Hope Bay on the south. It forms part of that old tract of country that the natives had called Wannamoisett, and originally, part of Rehoboth, this State, and of Barrington, Rhode Island, were within the Wannamoisett section. There are two prominent names in the older history that have to do with the beginning of the town; and there is one name in particular that is dominant in the present-day foundations of the community. The two older names are those of Rev. John Myles and Captain Thomas Willett; and the benefactor of recent times is Hon. Frank S. Stevens.

Because of the fact that Rev. John Myles of Swansea, in Wales, settled here and organized here the second Baptist church in this country, to him the town owes its origin, the Plymouth Court that year granting to this church, with others, the Swansea township. At that time there



also came to settle here, the diplomat of his day in this section, namely, Captain Thomas Willett, purchaser of the Attleboro country from the Indians, and who later became the first English mayor of New York, when the latter was ceded by the Dutch. These were the founders. In our own day Hon. Frank S. Stevens proved the generous town father in his notable gifts for the housing and enrichment of many of the public institutions.

Rev. John Myles was a pioneer church organizer and town builder. Having begun his ministry in South Wales, on the other side of the Atlantic, in 1645, he gathered a congregation and instituted a church there in 1649, during the first year of the protectorate of Oliver Cromwell. But upon the passing of the "Act of Uniformity" in 1662, with Charles II as King, two thousand clergymen found themselves without a church living.

At Rehoboth, in 1663, Rev. Mr. Myles re-established his Wales Church, that today is known as the First Baptist Church in Swansea. But the intolerance that then prevailed here and there among earliest settlers in this county and elsewhere, drove him and his followers farther south, to a place called New Meadow Neck, and there, as has been stated, the court gave a grant to this church, to be known as Swansea, naming it from the Swansea in Wales, whence the minister had emigrated. At the place of their first plantation here they were treated with bigoted severity, Mr. Myles and James Brown being fined £5 each and Nicholas Tanner twenty shillings, for setting up a public meeting without the court's approbation. The place of their eventual freedom from religious molestation—Swansea, then consisted of Shawomet, now Somerset; Mattapoissett, now Gardner's Neck; Kickemuit, between Cole and Warren rivers; New Meadow Neck, and Wannamoissett Neck. Early Swansea has since received various subdivisions—that of 1717, when Barrington was separated and incorporated; that of 1747, when Little Compton, Tiverton, Barrington, Cumberland and Warren were separated from the original territory by the sectional line between Massachusetts and Rhode Island; and that of 1790, when Shawomet was divided and made Somerset.

Such was the incident of Swansea's first share in the making of the present county of Bristol, and with the grant of the township, there were fifty-five signers admitted. A condition in the division of public lands existed in Swansea for ten years that had nothing to correspond with it in the new plantations, anywhere. It was that of an unequal division of lands, in which the men of the colony were divided into three ranks, those of the first rank receiving three acres to two granted those of the second, and to one granted those in the third rank. This was a landed aristocracy that was finally brought to a close in 1681, when the committee granted to five men, their heirs and assigns forever, "the full right and interest of the highest rank." Then the town took matters into their own hand and repudiated the act of the committee.

The first record that we have of white men's visitation and white men's settlement here is that contained in the Plymouth Records, which re-state the well known fact that in March, 1623, Governor Winslow and John Hampden visited the sachem Corbitant on Mattapoissett, now Gardner's Neck, South Swansea; but it was in June, 1664, that King Philip conveyed that district to William Brenton of Newport, who devised the whole in

his will to his son Ebenezer, who conveyed it in 1693 for £1700 to Samuel Gardner and Ralph Chapman. In June, 1675, there were several houses on the Neck, and about seventy persons were stopping at a garrison house, occupied by a Bourne, who were conveyed to Rhode Island after King Philip's War began, all the houses on the Neck being burned by the Indians.

In March, 1677, the General Court ordered that henceforth Wannamoissett and parts adjacent should thereafter be known by the name of Swansea, and that Captain Thomas Willett, Mr. Paine, Senior, Mr. James Brown, John Allen and John Butterworth have the trust of admittance of the town's inhabitants and disposal of the land therein.

**The Churches and Schools.**—It has been shown how the First Baptist Church was instituted here by Rev. John Myles. He died February 3, 1683, and he was succeeded in this ministry July 22, 1685, by Captain Samuel Luther, who died December 20, 1716, after thirty-two years as pastor. It is pointed out that in 1700 the meetinghouse was removed to the vicinity of Myles Bridge. Ephraim Wheaton became associated with Captain Luther in 1704; he succeeded to this ministry at his death, and it was during his pastorate that the church records appear to begin, in 1718. Samuel Maxwell succeeded Mr. Wheaton up to April 15, 1739. Elder Benjamin Harrington was installed as pastor August 15, 1742, and he was dismissed May 3, 1750. Jabez Wood was ordained pastor September 5, 1751, and the office was again vacated in 1778 or 1779. Mr. Thompson, pastor of the Baptist church at Warren, was made pastor of the Myles church, October 7, 1779, his own church having been burned May 25, 1778. Upon the rebuilding of his Warren church, Mr. Thompson returned to that society, and Rev. William Northrup succeeded him here in the spring of 1804. Rev. William Barton was his successor in 1808, and he was dismissed at his own request in the spring of 1810. The ministers in succession from that time have been: Revs. Abner Lewis, to April, 1819; Benjamin Taylor to 1821; Benjamin Pease, to 1823; Luther Baker, 1824-32; Jesse Briggs two and one-half years; O. J. Fisk, October 1, 1835, to April 1, 1836; Abiel Fisher, 1836-46; J. J. Thacher, 1846-54; Silas Hall, 1854-57; J. W. Horton, 1857-64; A. W. Ashley, 1864-67; J. A. Baskwell, May, 1868, to September, 1870; C. Bray, January, 1871, to May, 1874; the church being supplied by R. E. Barrows and others until April, 1876, when Rev. J. W. Horton was settled for the second time to January 1, 1882; Rev. G. W. Bixby, February, 1882, to 1891; Rev. Fred E. Bixby, 1892-98; Rev. Lucian Drury, 1898-1904; for the next three years there was no settled minister; Rev. Reuben J. Davis, 1907-08; there was no settled pastor from 1908 to 1913; Rev. Frederick J. Dark, 1913—. Up to the year 1846, this church, states Rev. Otis Olney Wright, the historian, occupied probably the oldest church building in the county, and probably the oldest Baptist house of worship in America. Tradition says that it was built in 1717.

About the year 1690, services were being held in the east part of the town, that with the church organization in 1693, as the Church of Christ in Swansea, were the origin of the Christian Church. From 1803 to 1819, preachers from the yearly meeting of the Six-Principle Baptists were in charge of the services; but on February 10, 1820, the church regained its



ecclesiastical freedom. Thomas Barnes had been ordained pastor in 1693. He died June 8, 1706. He was succeeded by Joseph Mason, son of Samson Mason, one of the soldiers of Cromwell, and he by John Pierce in 1715. Each of these last two preachers lived to be about ninety years of age. Job Mason, a nephew of the senior pastor, was ordained in May, 1738. He died July 17, 1775.

During the pastorate of Job Mason, thirty-three members of his church were dismissed at their own request to constitute a church to congregate in Rehoboth; and in 1763 several more members, together with others from Rehoboth and from Providence, emigrated to Sackville, now New Brunswick. Russell Mason succeeded his brother Job until his own death in 1799, at the age of eighty-five years. John Mason, another brother, was ordained pastor in 1788, and died in 1801, also at the age of eighty-five years. It was in 1788 that members living in Dartmouth organized for religious worship. Benjamin Mason succeeded John at his death, he dying in 1813, at the age of eighty-three years. Ministers successively then were: Philip Slade, to the close of 1819; Mr. Taylor, who was pastor ten years; Richard Davis, who became pastor in 1830, and so remained two and one-half years; James J. Thatcher, pastor from 1832 to 1841; Isaiah Haley, ordained in October, 1842, was pastor a few months; Jonathan Thompson, 1843-48, during which pastorate the Sunday school was organized. The church had a number of supply pastors. Those who have been pastors since 1889 were the following-named: Lester Howard, 1889-93; B. S. Batchelor, supply; Thomas S. Weeks, 1894-99; John MacCalman, 1899-1900; W. Parkinson Chase, 1900-01; William J. Reynolds, 1901-06; Carlyle Summerbell, 1906-08; Fred L. Brooks, 1908-09; Ernest R. Caswell, 1910-14; W. E. Baker, 1916—.

The meetinghouse of this society was "near William Wood's", when in 1719 an addition was built to it; and "soon after" a new house was built, of oak and chestnut, and stood where the present church stands. The latter was dedicated April 10, 1833, and this house was entirely remodeled in 1873. It is believed this is the oldest church in Massachusetts that never had legal connection with a town.

Beginning in 1820 and for a number of years, a Six-Principle Baptist church was maintained, the first pastor being Elder Philip Slade, formerly pastor of the old Baptist church. Deacon Ellery Wood bequeathed his homestead for the maintenance of worship, and meetings were held some years, and discontinued.

The interests of the people of the Catholic faith are increasing year by year. St. Francis Church at Barneyville and St. Dominique's at Swansea Centre were both established in 1910-11, under the care of Father Bernard Percot, of St. Anne's, Fall River.

A Union meetinghouse was dedicated December 29, 1830, on the site occupied by the Town Hall. Services of dedication were shared by people of many denominations. The meetings at this church were finally brought to a close, and the building was demolished, the site being unoccupied for a number of years.

The First Universalist Society of Swansea was organized in 1838, the pioneer preacher of that belief having been Rev. Aaron L. Balch. The society has not held meetings here for many years.

The first of the Episcopal services held in this town was that of May, 1845, when Rev. A. D. McCoy, of the Church of the Ascension in Fall River, maintained Sunday evening services until November, 1847. A church had been organized meantime, January 7, 1846, and a Sunday school was established by Dr. George W. Chevers, of Fall River. The church edifice was dedicated December 2, 1847, the first resident rector being Dr. John B. Richmond. Prominent among the first organizers of Christ Church were Hon. John Mason, Captain Preserved S. Gardner, John A. Wood, John E. Gray, Hon. George Austin, William Pearce, Benjamin H. Chase. The last only were communicants. William Pearce, John A. Wood and Captain Gardner each left the parish \$500 as a permanent fund for the support of the church. The church services were first held in the Union meeting-house. The building that was dedicated in 1847 had about two hundred sittings, and cost about \$2,000. Rev. Mr. Richmond served from January 1, 1848, to January, 1852, and was succeeded for a few months by Rev. Benjamin Austin. In 1853, Rev. William Withington of Boston came, and remained until January, 1856. Successively, rectors have been: Rev. William B. Colburn; Rev. N. Watson Munroe, March, 1859, to February, 1864; Rev. A. F. Wylie and Rev. A. E. Tortat to April, 1868; Rev. George Heaton, M. A., to August, 1869; Rev. N. Watson Munroe, June, 1871, to Easter Monday, 1877; Rev. William T. Fitch to July, 1881; Rev. Otis O. Wright to February 15, 1888; Rev. Ernest Marriett, April 2, 1888, to December 12, 1889; Rev. Percy Grant, 1890 to 1893; Rev. Herman Page, to about 1900; Rev. Edward Benedict, December 26, 1900; Rev. J. Wynne-Jones, May 17, 1909. The last service in the old church was held June 18, 1899, and the building was sold at auction June 21. The cornerstone of the present church was laid August 27, 1899, and the consecration of the new church took place June 6, 1900, by Right Rev. William Lawrence, D. D.

Rev. John Myles, the first pastor of the first church here, was also the first schoolmaster. It was ordered, December 19, 1673, that a school should be started in the town for the teaching of grammar, rhetoric, arithmetic; also Latin, Greek and Hebrew; as well as for the reading and writing of English. Mr. Myles held the school in various parts of the town, as was customary throughout the province before the building of school-houses. Jonathan Bosworth is mentioned as the next schoolmaster, in 1698, and he also taught in the various sections of the town. Then came John Devotion, who taught the schools for more than a quarter of a century.

The appropriation for the maintenance of Swansea's schools in 1922 was \$41,635, and the total number of pupils then enrolled in the schools was 607. The town has no high school, but attending the high schools elsewhere there were fifty-eight at Fall River, twenty-two at Warren, R. I., and one at Somerset. The local schools at this date were Bank street, Gardner, North street, and Stevens, the latter the gift of Hon. Frank S. Stevens.

**Swansea in the Wars.**—Tuesday, June 22, 1675, the first blood of the King Philip War was shed at Gardner's Neck in Swansea, six men being killed or mortally wounded. On Thursday, June 24, others were killed there, and most of the houses were burned. The garrison house of pastor



John Myles, at Barneyville, was the assembly-place for contingents of the Massachusetts troops throughout the course of the conflict.

It has been ascertained that 416 Swansea men bore arms in the Revolutionary War, whether for long or short periods. September 26, 1774, Colonel Andrew Cole, Captain Levi Wheaton, Captain Philip Slade, Richard Cornell and Captain Luther Thurber were chosen the first committee from this town to meet with delegates from other towns to deliberate with regard to the exigencies of the times. The town provided guns, powder, lead and flint, and directed that fifty men be enlisted to be ready at a minute's warning. Troops were repeatedly called out from this town to the defence of the shores. Three militia captains of this town were particularly active throughout the struggle: namely, Peleg Sherman, afterwards colonel; Philip Slade, and Peleg Peck. Colonel Peleg Slade was also an ardent friend of the patriotic cause.

Swansea responded well to the call of the War for the Union, and the town was represented in all branches of the service. One hundred and thirty men went from and were hired by and for the town. A tablet in Town Hall contains the names of Swansea soldiers in all wars. The number that served from here in the World War was seventy-three.

**Various Institutions.**—The Town Hall, one of the most attractive of any in the towns in this county, was dedicated September 9, 1891, the gift of Hon. Frank S. Stevens to the town. The building, which is of rough field stones taken from walls on farms owned by Mr. Stevens, with Longmeadow brownstone used for trimmings, is upon a lot nearby the residence of its donor. The tower is thirteen feet square and fifty-six feet in height, and contains a bell and clock. On the occasion of the dedication, Job Gardner was president of the day; speakers were: Hon. Frank S. Stevens, donor of the building; Hon. John Summerfield Brayton, the orator; Rev. Percy S. Grant, chaplain; Rev. Benjamin H. Chase; Major James Brown, of Taunton, the first Swansea man to graduate from college; Jonathan M. Wood of Fall River; Hon. Edwin L. Barney of Fall River.

The Frank S. Stevens Public Library building was dedicated September 19, 1900, the cornerstone having been laid October 31, 1899. Job Gardner was president of the day, Hon. Albert C. Pillsbury and Rev. Herman Page were orators, and Hezekiah Butterworth read verses. In September, 1882, Rev. Otis Olney Wright, rector of Christ Church from 1881 to 1888, instituted the Christ Church Book Circle, composed of twenty-one members; and as a result, the Swansea Public Library Association was formed May 9, 1883, the officers being: President, Rev. Otis Olney Wright; vice-president, James H. Mason; secretary, Miss Julia R. Wellington; collector and treasurer, Frank R. Stebbins; librarian, Rev. O. O. Wright; assistant librarian, Mrs. O. O. Wright; trustees: Henry O. Wood, Frank S. Stevens, Job Gardner. On June 14, 1883, the Book Circle donated its books to the library, and on June 23 that year, Narragansett Lodge, No. 58, I. O. G. T., disbanding, donated its library, also. At first the institution was located in the Israel Brayton house; in June, 1884, it was removed to Mrs. Katharine Gardner's vacant store building. October 1, 1885, it was in the old store and postoffice building, then the property of Hon. Frank S. Stevens. In September, 1891, the books were removed to

the library room in the Town Hall. In March, 1896, the town voted to establish a free public library, and in the following May, the Library Association voted to present its books and property to the town. The gift was accepted, and the Swansea Free Public Library was opened September 26, 1896, and a delivery station was established at North Swansea, in charge of Mrs. Mary S. Greene; another at Swansea Centre, in charge of John B. Eddy; and a third at Hortonville, in charge of Mrs. Delmar A. Cummings. Rev. O. O. Wright continued as librarian until his removal to another pastorate in February, 1888; Miss Carrie A. Chase, now Mrs. Elmer D. Young, was librarian from February to May, 1888. Miss Julia R. Wellington, the first and only secretary of the association, was elected librarian, June 2, 1888, and she has continued to serve to date. At the death of Hon. Frank S. Stevens, April 25, 1888, his will declared that the town of Swansea should receive the income of \$2,500 for the purchase of books for a free public library; and the executors were directed to expend \$10,000 in erecting and furnishing a public library on the lot occupied by the Town Hall, elected by the testator, and to be known as the Stevens Public Library building.

The dwelling house of Reuben Chace, known as "The Buttonwood," three-quarters of a mile west of Swansea Village, was the first postoffice, Mr. Chace being appointed postmaster July 1, 1800. John Mason succeeded him as postmaster, June 17, 1814, at the present office in the village. John A. Wood succeeded him June 12, 1849, and he so continued until June 6, 1853, when Mr. Mason was returned to the office. Again, on March 23, 1864, Mr. Wood was reinstated. His son, Henry O. Wood, was appointed June 18, 1867. He resigned May 24, 1887, after twenty years of service, when Lewis S. Gray was appointed. Miss Fanny E. Wood succeeded Mr. Gray in the office. The Barneyville postoffice was established at North Swansea in February, 1830, the name afterwards being changed to North Swansea. Mason Barney was appointed postmaster February 20, that year. His successors were: Alvan Cole, June 28, 1836; Captain James Cornell, February 28, 1838; Mason Barney, June 24, 1841; Mason Barney, Jr., in April, 1867; William P. Mason, February 12, 1872. Swansea Center postoffice was established December 29, 1888, with Seth W. Eddy as postmaster. Hortonville postoffice was started January 19, 1885, with L. L. Cummings as postmaster. South Swansea postoffice was established on Gardner's Neck October 24, 1890, with the appointment of Frank J. Arnold.

The Dorothy Brown Lodge Hall, built in 1899, was dedicated March 29, 1900, and it is said that this is the only Rebekah lodge in the country that owns its hall and has invested funds. The lodge has a membership of more than one hundred. In 1893 a number of Swansea Odd Fellows, members of lodges elsewhere, started a Rebekah lodge here, being granted their charter August 11, 1893. The lodge was instituted in the Town Hall, December 11, that year, as the Dorothy Brown Rebekah Lodge, No. 122, I. O. O. F., the name being given at the suggestion of Hon. John S. Brayton, as having been that of the wife of John Brown, one of the early settlers. She died here January 27, 1674, at the age of ninety years. Four of her direct descendants have been members of this lodge.

**Industries.**—The Swansea Dye Works, known throughout and beyond this section for the excellence of its product, employs fifty to sixty hands.



A number of industries have been established on the site of this works. Straw paper was manufactured here about 1840, by William Mitchell, Wood avenue leading thereto then being known as Paper Mill lane. Then Munroe and Howard carried on a bakery, succeeding Howard and Mitchell in the same line. Mary I. Altham then started the first bleachery here, she being succeeded by Mayall and Hacker, Hacker and Watson, John Monarch, James Butterworth and James Hacker, whose plant was burned; James Kirker and the Eagle Turkey Red Company, then the present Dye Works. A fifty by one hundred feet addition was built in 1916.

The North Swansea Manufacturing Company employ fifty to sixty hands in the manufacturing of collar buttons, sleeve links, tie clasps and stick pins. The plant originated in 1879, when the firm of D. R. Child Company was established by Daniel R. Child, of Providence. He built his small shop in the shipyard lot at Barneyville, where he manufactured collar buttons and sleeve links. A few years afterwards he removed to the present lot, where he enlarged the building. He sold to J. L. Fenimore in 1894, who transferred to Lorenzo P. Sturtevant. John L. Shabeck bought the plant in 1910, and after six months sold to Charles G. Green and G. R. Church of Warren, R. I. It was called North Swansea Manufacturing Company in 1911, when Benjamin F. Norton and J. F. Wheeler were admitted.

Of the older industries, the following were prominent in their day: The Swansea factory, stated to have been the second cotton factory in this country. The factory and dam were constructed in 1806 by Oliver Chace, and in successive years to 1836 it passed through numerous hands. The factory was burned in 1836, and was never rebuilt. Dexter Wheeler in 1805 began spinning yarn by horse-power at his father's farm in Rehoboth. In 1806 he built a small mill in Swansea, and placed some hundreds of spindles therein. In 1809 removal was made to Fall River, then Troy, where the Fall River Manufacturing Company was originated. In the eastern part of Swansea on the John Tattersall farm, it is understood that bog iron was worked in the town's early history. An old deed is extant which indicates that there were forges and iron-works in Swansea in 1725.

**Miscellaneous.**—Swansea observed the 250th anniversary of its incorporation as a town in August, 1919, with a brilliant pageant on the Dorothy Brown Hall grounds, and with three thousand people present. The pageant was dated from the seventeenth century to the present day, and was divided into episodes, interludes, tableaux and masks, and mingled with music and dancing.

The town has the distinction of having had but three town clerks within the space of a century, namely John Wilson, 1814 to 1864; J. E. Luther, 1864 to 1880; Henry Wood, 1880 to 1923.

The Rest House for Episcopal clergymen is another of the many gifts that have come from the beneficence of the Stevens family, that institution being provided by Mrs. Stevens.

The population of Swansea in 1922 was approximately 2,300. The number of residents assessed on property April 1, that year, was 1,048; non-residents assessed on property, 970; assessed on polls only, 253; total, 2,271. The valuation of personal estate was \$526,060; of real estate, \$1,768,382; total valuation, \$2,294,442. The rate of tax per \$1,000 was \$33.40.

## CHAPTER XVI.

## WESTPORT

It is only within the past quarter of a century that the Acoaxet country, the Westports, has witnessed any appreciable changes from the farm and community conditions that had existed nearly the same for a century or more. Within the twenty-five years, many descendants of old settlers, branching out into business relations elsewhere and seeking new homes, have disposed of homesteads that had been in families for generations; and people of other nationalities, leaving the factories and the fishing, have been purchasing lands and providing new homes for themselves in this old Quaker country. Within two decades, road building on modern lines has become universal in the town, even to its southernmost limits, through the seashore resorts and along by the shores. The district school building is rapidly disappearing, and the present-day structure that is taking its place is overflowing with the increasing school population. Upon the foundations of the first homes, everywhere has arisen the cottage of today; the Portuguese and French arrivals have established their neighborhoods and churches; and along the shore have come a multitude of summer home makers.

North Westport has witnessed just such changes as these,—the Beulah or Greenwood section having been built up within a half dozen years, with its new \$12,000 public school in process of construction in 1923; and in this part of the town is a school that was built only ten years ago to provide for the growing educational interests. A Congregational church and the postoffice have their location here; and the Watuppa Grange was instituted in 1921, with a large membership of farmers and townsfolk in general.

Westport Factory is no longer the scattered hamlet, but rather a steadily increasing village both of natives and many newcomers in the vicinity of the plant of the Westport Manufacturing Company. Here, just about halfway between the cities of New Bedford and Fall River, is the old water power privilege of a succession of mills; the Union school, built within fifteen years; the Union Christian Church, built about the year 1908; and the Catholic church for the French residents, just over the Dartmouth line, and in process of building in 1923. Beyond, is the small but comparatively new settlement of Brownell's Corners, where a public schoolhouse was being built in 1923, and where a Congregational church has long been established. The Head of Westport, known as the "Head," is a live part of the town, with its library, Congregational church, schools and postoffice. Central Village is a small section of the town where the high school had been established about eight years. Here there is a Friends meeting, a Portuguese Catholic church, postoffice, primary school, and where a new schoolhouse was being built in 1923. Westport Point, formerly a whaling port, is now almost entirely a summer resort, with church, school and postoffice. Horseneck Beach, where an extensive causeway was under construction in 1923, is entirely a community of summer homes, with a postoffice open during three months of the year; and South Westport is all farming district.



The town's assessed valuation in real estate in 1922 was \$4,125,375; in personal, \$552,450. Edward L. Macomber was town clerk, Charles H. Gifford treasurer. The Free Public Library, Miss Annie R. Howland, librarian, had a circulation of 2526 books in 1922; the Westport Public Library, Miss Emily F. Sisson, librarian, had a circulation of 3502 books.

**Past and Present**—Westport, the Acoaxet Indian plantation, was incorporated under its present name in 1787, it having originally been part of the Dartmouth territory. Portions of Dartmouth were ceded to the town February 25, 1793, and March 4, 1805, and again a part of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, in 1861. The first townhouse was built on Ichabod Potter's land, and the first town meeting held there April 6, 1789. No historian of this southland was better informed with regard to the foundations of the first white men's homes here than the late Henry B. Worth, Esq., who had made a thorough study of deeds relating to the township of Dartmouth and Westport. Mr. Worth, who was secretary of the Dartmouth Historical Society, and had written and read many papers concerning this part of the State that are to be found among the publications of that society, was of opinion that the first settler at the head of Westport was Richard Sisson, who had located his home on the west side of the river and at the south side of the main highway, and was elected surveyor of town roads in 1671. He has stated that Richard Gifford, also an early settler, was a land king of Acoaxet, and in the 1712 apportionment at the head of Westport he received nearly 400 acres. Previous to that, George Lawton, Benjamin Waite and John Tripp had secured seventy acres of land along the river, and in 1712 they formed a combination to utilize the water power north of the present village. They built two mills, that on the west side of the river, known as Lawton's mill, that on the east side as Waite's mill, and later as Tripp's or Chase's mill. Joseph Peckham and Beriah Goddard were also first purchasers in this part of the town, as well as Mary Hix, who was owner of the Hix ferry that was conducted by her and her sons until 1745, when William Hix built the first bridge there. Nicholas Howland was a purchaser of lands in this section, so was Paul Cuff, a slave who had received his freedom in 1765. The Giffords lived at Horseneck and at Westport Point.

The Friends were tenacious of their beliefs and of their religious rights from the first settlement of the section, or from the time when the Quakers and the Baptists began to assert that privileges should be accorded them apart from the Congregationalists, and that they should be relieved from paying the Congregational ministerial tax. Thus they began their meetings, and they have maintained them to this day. Again we quote from the papers of the late Henry B. Worth, whose information concerning the Friends was based upon his life study of the township in general. He has stated that Acoaxet was strongly Quaker, and has held tenaciously to that form of belief even to modern times. They had a meeting-house seventy years before New Bedford, at Central Village. In 1761 there was a demand by them for a place of worship in the north part of the town, so a building was erected at George H. Gifford's Corner, and called the Centre Meeting-house, which was maintained until 1840, when it was removed to the north side of the road, about a quarter of a mile west of the bridge. This was discontinued about thirty years ago (1878).

Just what happened, says Mr. Worth, in 1840, to induce the Friends to move their meeting-house nearer the village may be inferred from some hints to be found in the records. In 1830 George M. Brownell purchased from Dr. J. H. Handy a lot of land which in 1845 was conveyed by John O. Brownell to the First Christian Baptist Society. There had then been a meeting-house on this lot, which in 1859 is described as "the old meeting-house." There is some reason to infer that it may have been built soon after 1830. Evidently the Quakers felt that it was necessary to have a meeting-house nearer the dwellings of their members, or they might attend the other meeting.

The First Christian Church in Westport was organized in 1819, and the church was built in 1824, with Peleg Sisson for the minister. The society was incorporated January 9, 1844, and the church joined the Rhode Island and Massachusetts Christian Conference in September, 1862. The Second Christian Church at South Westport was organized September 18, 1838, and the church building was dedicated February 1, 1876. The Third Christian Church was organized at Central Village, June 10, 1839, and the church was erected in 1842. The Fourth Christian Church, at Brownell's Corner, was organized July 4, 1843, and the church building was opened and dedicated the same day. The First Christian Church at North Westport was organized January 1, 1858. The Pacific Union Congregational Church was organized in May, 1855.

The most extensive business in the section and one of the oldest in the county, is that of the Westport Cotton Manufacturing Company, at Westport Factory, employing many hands and producing at full capacity more than 1,500,000 pounds of goods annually. In 1789, William Gifford and Lemuel Milk bought the site for an iron forge; and in 1854 the property was purchased by William B. Trafford, who transferred it to the Westport Manufacturing Company, Mr. Trafford having been associated with Augustus Chace at Globe Village. In the early sixties, Mr. Trafford in company with his two half-brothers, George and Elijah Lewis, reorganized the concern, Mr. Trafford remaining as manager to the time of his death in 1880. William C. Trafford was made treasurer in 1872. The incorporation took place in April, 1916, and to that date the business had been managed by five men—William B. Trafford, Elijah R. Lewis, George W. Lewis, Andrew R. Trafford (who died October 20, 1917), and William C. Trafford, who died March 8, 1922. Upon the death of the latter, Henry L. Trafford was elected president, in May of the same year. The capital is \$600,000—\$400,000 preferred and \$200,000 common. The mill was built in 1812. In May, 1919, the company took possession of its modern up-to-date cotton waste plant in Fall River, a three-story structure, 70 by 126 feet. At Westport Factory, the old office building standing since 1872, has been removed and an elaborate new office building has been constructed, modelled upon the lines of the mill structure.

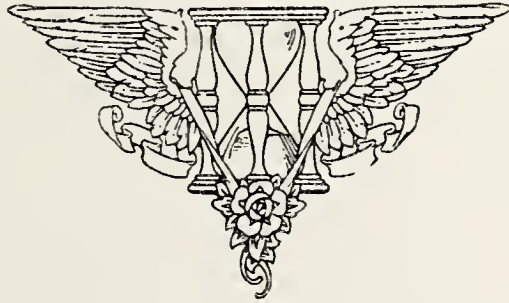
Outside of the factory, farming, poultry raising and fishing are the industries of the town. A large proportion of the farms are productive and well located for market-gardening, and include the properties of Edmund Gifford, Nelson Gifford, Frank Perry, John Costa, Nason Macomber, William Hicks, Joseph Bone, John, George and William Smith.

Henry B. Worth, Esq., once said that on account of absence of records



relating to school affairs in this part of the town in the early days, there is no way of knowing about that arrangement. Previous to 1840 it is not possible to find the record of any purchase of land for school purposes in Westport. The schools throughout the town in 1923 were as follows: The high school, whose four-year arrangement had been completed in 1923; the schools at North Westport, Sanford Road, Beulah Road, Factory, Head, Brownell's Corner, Macomber's Corner, Point, South Westport, Horseneck, Acoaxet. There were 774 pupils, and the amount of appropriation for schools maintenance was \$45,000. Edward L. Hill was the superintendent.

During the Civil War there were 253 men in the service from this town; in the World War, there were eighty-eight.







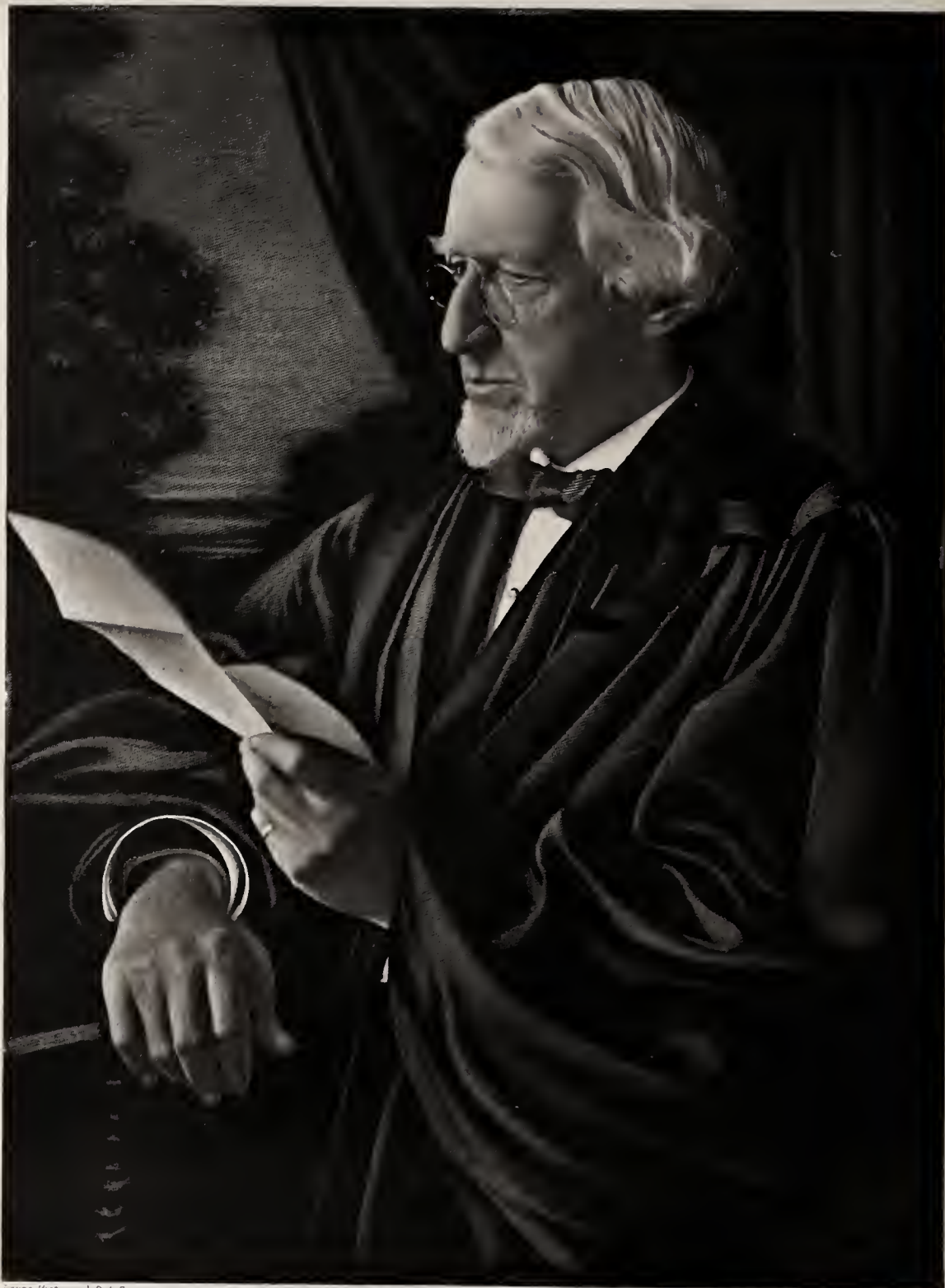
# BRISTOL COUNTY

## FAMILY AND PERSONAL HISTORY









Lewis Historical Pub. Co.

Eng. by E. G. Williams & Bro. N.Y.

James M. Morton



# BRISTOL COUNTY

## FAMILY AND PERSONAL HISTORY

---

### **JAMES MADISON MORTON, A. M., LL. D.—**

For nearly a quarter of a century Judge Morton was an associate justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Court, his work as a jurist being characterized by ability, learning and sound judgment. He resigned his position on the bench in December, 1913, and received in response a letter from Governor Eugene N. Foss, granting his request to be relieved, in which the governor said in part: "You are fully entitled to retire from the arduous duties of the Supreme Court, and while I sincerely regret that the commonwealth is no longer to have the benefit of your wisdom and experience upon the bench, I nevertheless recognize the justice of your request, and in congratulating you upon your long record of splendid public service I accept your resignation."

Learned in the law, with the record of many years of successful practice at the Bristol county bar, of judicial temperament, a dignified bearing, and a warm love for his fellow-men, no man ever ascended to a seat upon the bench of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts with a better equipment than Judge Morton. He came of a notable family which included Governor Marcus Morton, who was also a Member of Congress; Chief Justice Marcus Morton, of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts; and Judge Marcus (2) Morton, of the present Superior Court.

The founder of the family in New England was George Morton, who came from England to New England in 1623 on the ship "Ann," settled in Plymouth and wrote the first history of Plymouth Colony, published in England, entitled "A Relation or Journal of the Beginnings and Proceedings of the English Plantations Settled at Plymouth in New England." His son, Nathaniel, was secretary of Plymouth in 1647-1685, and the author of that valuable work, "New England Memorial," compiled from the writings and observations of Governor William Bradford and himself. George Morton married, in Leyden, Holland, Juliana Carpenter, who bore him sons and daughters. George Morton died in 1624. The line of descent to Judge James M. Morton is as follows:

(I) George Morton and his wife, Juliana Carpenter; (II) their son, Lieutenant Ephraim Morton, and his first wife, Ann Cooper; (III) their son, Eleazer Morton, and his wife, Rebecca Dawes; (IV) their son, Nathaniel Morton, and his wife, Rebecca (Clark) Ellis; (V) their son, Major Nathaniel Morton, and his wife, Martha Tupper; (VI) their son, Job Morton, and his wife, Patience Purrington; (VII) their son, James Madison Morton, and his

wife, Sarah M. A. Tobey; (VIII) their son, James Madison (2) Morton, and his wife, Emily F. Canedy; (IX) their only son, James Madison (3) Morton, and his wife, Nancy J. B. Brayton; (X) their children: James Madison (4), died 1908; Brayton; Sarah; Hugh.

Major Nathaniel Morton, of the fifth generation, was a lieutenant of a company of "Minute Men" of East Freetown, later was commissioned captain and then was made major. Job Morton, of the sixth generation, was a graduate of Brown University, class of 1797. For twenty-four years he was a selectman of Freetown and for eleven years a deputy to the General Court. James Madison Morton, of the seventh generation, was postmaster of Fall River under President Pierce, and in early life was treasurer of the White Cotton Mill, in Fairhaven, Massachusetts. He married, May 30, 1830, Sarah Maria Ann Tobey, who was born March 23, 1807, and died ninety-four years later. James Madison Morton was their oldest child.

James Madison Morton was born in Fairhaven, Massachusetts, September 5, 1837, and died at his home in Fall River, Massachusetts, April 19, 1923. His father was at one time treasurer of the White Cotton Mills of Fairhaven, but later moved to Fall River, and here the son was educated in public and private schools. In 1856 he entered Brown University for a special course, receiving his Bachelor's degree at graduation in the class of 1859. He prepared for the profession of Law at Harvard Law School, whence he was graduated LL. B., class of 1861. He at once began practice at Fall River in the office of Judge Louis Lapham. He was city solicitor in 1864-1867, and in 1864 formed a partnership with John S. Brayton under the firm name of Brayton & Morton, which continued until Mr. Brayton was elected clerk of courts. Mr. Morton practiced alone from 1873 to 1876, when he formed a partnership with Andrew J. Jennings, which continued until Mr. Morton's appointment to the bench of the Supreme Court in 1890. During the period of 1863-1890 he was connected with much of the important litigation in the courts of his section, and by common consent came to be regarded as the leader of the Bristol county bar. In 1890 he was appointed by Governor Brackett an associate judge of the Supreme Judicial Court, and for twenty-three years he sat upon the bench of that court, rendering distinguished service. His retirement was regarded as a distinct loss to the judiciary of the State, the press commenting upon it in terms most flattering to Judge Morton. The Boston "Transcript" said:

It will seem somewhat strange not to have a Morton upon the Supreme bench of Massachusetts. The people of his generation in the State have not known it without one. From 1869 to 1891 Judge Marcus Morton was a member of that court, during later years its chief justice. At about the time of his retirement Judge James M. Morton, who has just resigned, was appointed, and for twenty-three years has proved himself a worthy representative of a family that has been unusually prominent because of the number of judges of the higher courts that have come from it.

The Boston "Globe" said:

Time has laid a hand gently upon Judge Morton, who retires soon, at his own request, from the Supreme Court, where he has served the people of Massachusetts with distinguished ability for nearly a quarter of a century. He is seventy-six. Bench and bar and public will unite in wishing the eminent jurist an old age bright and serene—he has earned it.

During his term on the Supreme bench Judge Morton continued his residence at Fall River, and after his long and faithful service on the bench he enjoyed a life of contentment and ease for several years. He then was persuaded to accept an election in 1917 as a delegate to the convention which served the constitution of the State of Massachusetts. He took a very active part in the proceedings of that body, being chairman of the judiciary committee, and serving with ability and zeal. He was deeply interested in the deliberations of the convention, whose work, a redraft of the Constitution, was approved by the voters upon submittal to them.

Though always a lawyer, allowing nothing to come between him and the full duty he owed his clients and the public, Judge Morton while practicing law at Fall River was identified with its development and acquired important business interests. He was president of the Union Mills Company, a director of the B. M. C. Durfee Trust Company, the First National Bank, and of several cotton mill operations, but withdrew from all these offices when appointed to the Supreme bench. After retiring from his judicial position he again served as a director of the B. M. C. Durfee Trust Company, the First National Bank and the Union Mills, holding these positions until his death, in April, 1923.

Judge Morton was a lifelong member of the Unitarian church and greatly devoted to its welfare, attending its services very regularly. He was a member of the Unitarian Society, which he served at times as moderator and chairman of its standing committee. In politics he was a Republican. His clubs were the Union of Boston, the Quequechan of Fall River, and he was a member of the Bunker Hill Association, and the Boston Academy of Arts and Sciences.

On November 6, 1866, Judge Morton married Emily Frances Canedy, daughter of John Luther and Elizabeth (Read) Canedy, and a direct descendant of Alexander Canedy, a Scotchman, who came to Plymouth, Massachusetts, about the year 1700.

The line is traced from:

(I) Alexander Canedy; (II) his son, William Canedy, and his wife, Elizabeth Fuller; (III) their son, Lieutenant William (2) Canedy, and his wife,

Charity Leonard; (IV) their son, William (3) Canedy, and his wife, Mary Brown; (V) their son, John Luther Canedy, and his wife, Elizabeth Read; (VI) their daughter, Emily Frances, and her husband, Judge James M. (2) Morton; (VII) their son, James M. (3) Morton, and his wife, Nancy J. B. Brayton.

To Judge and Mrs. Morton three children were born: 1. James Madison (3), a sketch of whom follows. 2. Margaret, married Willard F. Keeney, a lawyer of Grand Rapids, Michigan, where she died in 1920. 3. Anne, resides with her mother at the family home at No. 487 Rock street, Fall River. Judge Morton received from Brown University, in 1882, the degree of A. M., and in 1894 that of LL. D. In 1917 the Boston "Herald" thus spoke of him:

James Madison Morton, for years one of the most distinguished members of the Massachusetts bench, retired from his position as associate justice of the Supreme Court in 1913. Although he is past eighty years of age, he is very much in the forefront of Massachusetts affairs, for he is a delegate to the constitutional convention and is taking an active part in its proceedings.

He likes pictures, and he likes books. History and biography are his favorite subjects. His public experience has been confined largely to the bench until his election to the constitutional convention, where he is now gaining experience in the making of governments, after his long career in the administration of justice.

"My hobby ever since I completed my law course has been the study and practice of law," were his own words on his personal life. "My favorite pastime is salmon fishing, and my greatest happiness is when I am with my wife and children."

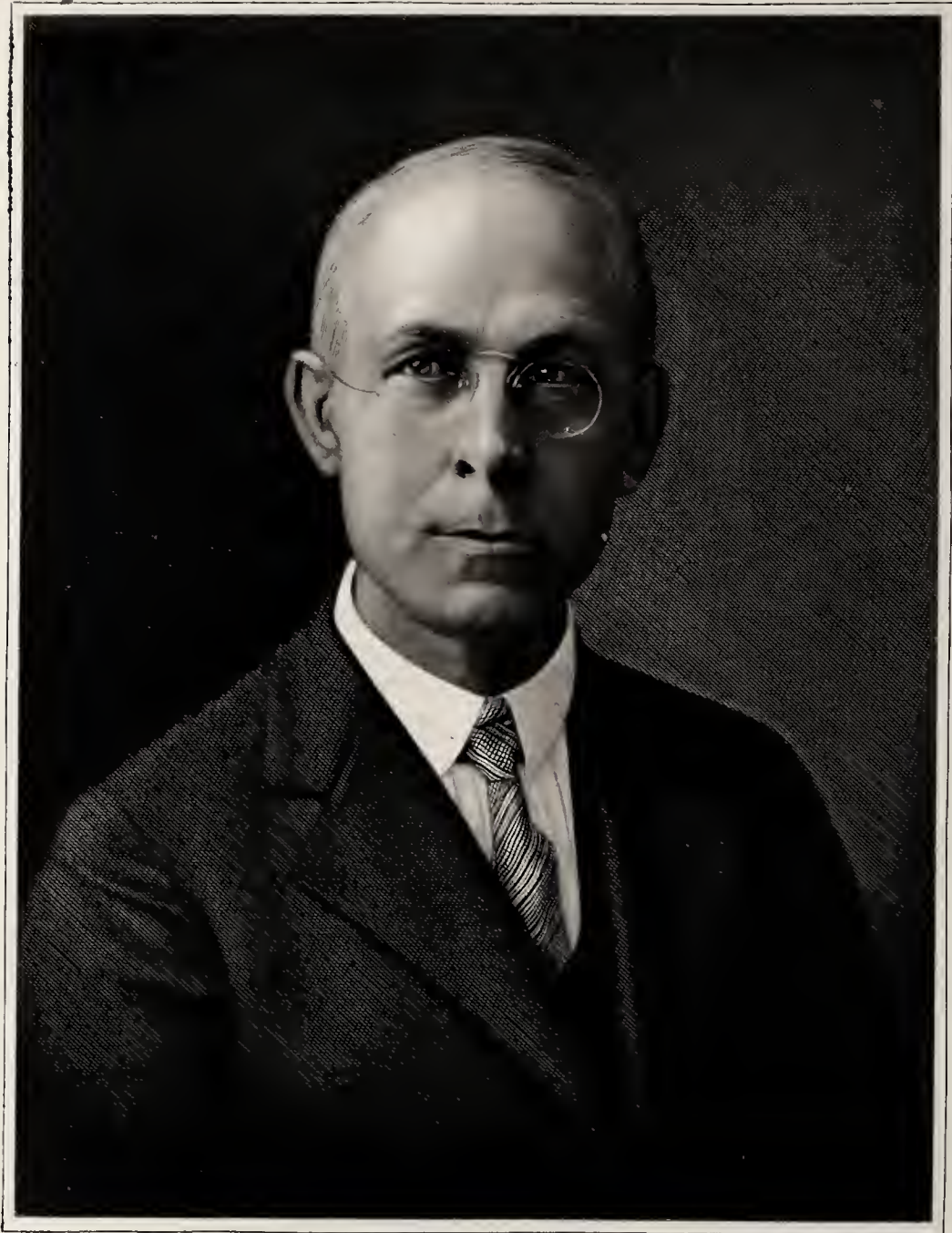
Such was the life of Judge James M. Morton, who died honored by the bench and the bar, esteemed in his city, and loved by his friends and by all who knew him.

**JAMES MADISON MORTON (3)**—When James Madison Morton, Sr., resigned the seat upon the Supreme Bench of the State of Massachusetts, in December, 1913, that he had occupied for nearly twenty-five years, there was still a Judge James Madison Morton in active service, for that eminent jurist and his son had been contemporaries upon the bench although in different courts. James M. Morton (3) was appointed United States District Judge for Massachusetts by President Taft on August 9, 1912, an office which he still holds. He is the eighth District Judge of the United States in Massachusetts since the establishment of the court in 1789, on the adoption of the Constitution. Learned and sensible in the law, with the qualities of character that command respect and confidence, and with unusual ability in legal administration, Judge Morton, who assumed judicial office in his eighteenth year of practice, has peculiar qualifications for the high office he fills.

James Madison Morton (3), son of Judge James Madison and Emily Frances (Canedy) Morton, and of the ninth generation of the family in New England, was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, August 24, 1869. He prepared in the city schools, Phillips Exeter Academy, and then entered Harvard University, from which he was graduated A. B., (1891), A. M. and LL. B., receiving the last







Frank Walcott Hutt.



named degrees, class of 1894, and being the law orator at that commencement. He began professional practice at Fall River, immediately after graduation from Harvard Law School, and became a law partner of Andrew J. Jennings, who had been his father's partner from 1876 until the latter's appointment to the Supreme Bench in 1890. From 1896 until 1912, Mr. Morton practiced his profession at Fall River and won high standing as a lawyer of learning and skill. From 1903 to 1912, he was a member of the Board of Police Commissioners of Fall River and was largely instrumental in bringing the police force up to a very high standard of efficiency. The Great War threw upon the federal court many new, delicate, and difficult questions of law and of administration which Judge Morton handled with marked success. He still retains Fall River as his home.

In politics Judge Morton is a Republican, and in religious faith a Unitarian. He is President of the Sagamore Manufacturing Company; chairman of the directors of the Wentworth Institute of Boston; director of the Boys' Club of Fall River; and a member of the following clubs: Union, Tavern, Harvard of Boston, Fall River Country, and Quequechan of Fall River. He is known as a yachtsman and fisherman.

Judge Morton married, June 10, 1896, Nancy J. B. Brayton, daughter of Israel Perry and Parthenia (Gardner) Brayton, of Fall River. Four children were born to them: 1. James M. (4), born June 10, 1897, died May 14, 1908. 2. Brayton, born October 24, 1898; a graduate of Harvard, A. B., 1920, who afterwards studied at Cambridge University, England, and at Harvard Law School; during the war with Germany, 1917-18, he served in the Royal Air Force as a flight officer. 3. Sarah, born September 29, 1902; now a student at Smith's College. 4. Hugh, born September 10, 1906; now a student at Williams' College.

**ZEPHANIAH W. PEASE**, a contributor to this work, was born in New Bedford, August 21, 1861, the son of Peleg and Joanna Morton (Thomas) Pease. He is of "Mayflower" and Revolutionary ancestry, being of the eighth generation from John Howland, and a descendant of Noah Thomas, a Revolutionary soldier, who was wounded at the battle of Bunker Hill.

Peleg Pease, father of Zephaniah W. Pease, was born in New Bedford in 1822, the son of Zephaniah and Mary (Spooner) Pease. He died in 1879. Mary (Spooner) Pease was the daughter of the captain of a merchant ship, and was born in Plympton, Massachusetts, in 1828. She is still living.

Peleg Pease was an assistant editor of the "Mercury" in 1876, and a writer of verse and many humorous articles that appeared in the local newspapers. He was for many years a member of the School Board.

Mr. Pease graduated from the high school in 1877, and after a brief experience on a Fall River newspaper became a reporter on the morning "Mercury," of New Bedford, in the fall of 1880. In

1895 Mr. Pease became editor of the "Mercury," a position he has since occupied. The same year Mr. Pease was appointed by President Cleveland collector of customs for the Port of New Bedford, an office he held until 1900. Mr. Pease has also served on the New Bedford Water Board, and is a member of the selective service board of Division No. 3. Mr. Pease is the author of "The Catalpa Expedition," published in 1897, a "History of New Bedford," and "Life in New Bedford A Hundred Years Ago," and has contributed many special articles to various publications.

Mr. Pease married (first), October 24, 1888, Anna F. Bryden, of Fairhaven, who died in 1921, and has one son, Bryden Pease, who is with George H. McFadden & Brother, cotton merchants of Philadelphia. In October, 1922, Mr. Pease married (second) Eliza C. White, of Fairhaven.

**FRANK WALCOTT HUTT** was born in Gloucester, Massachusetts, on September 6, 1869, son of the late William V. and Ruth A. Hutt. His early education was obtained in the public and high schools of Gloucester, following which he matriculated at Trinity College, and subsequently, at Boston University. He was then employed for some years as private secretary to the famous sculptor, William Ordway Partridge. After his resignation from this position Mr. Hutt followed his innate flair for literature and was engaged for many years as a journalist for a number of publications throughout Eastern Massachusetts. While residing in Lynn, Massachusetts, and covering a period of five years, he had charge each week of a page of illustrated historical articles for the Lynn "Daily Item," concerning the history of Lynn and its environs. So thorough was Mr. Hutt in this connection and so great his scope of research, that he was honored by election to the Lynn Historical Society. Later, while a resident of Taunton, and for the same unusual and constant application to historical research and study, he was elected as secretary to the Old Colony Historical Society. He is also a member of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

The name of Frank Walcott Hutt is not unknown among the American literati. He is the author of many plays, musical comedies and short stories that have been published in various magazines, and specimens of his excellent verse are included in a number of anthologies pertaining to the lyric side of prosody. Perhaps his greatest and most monumental work in the literary field is the compilation of the historical data that goes to make up this "History of Bristol County"—the most comprehensive, withal compendious, historical account of this section extant. As editor-in-chief, author of the greater part of the contents, and supervisor of the work of a corps of assistant writers, Mr. Hutt has achieved and given a bequeathment to future generations of an history that has no peer in this very specialized and exacting field of literary endeavor.

Frank Walcott Hutt was married, on the Thanks-



giving Eve of 1893, to Emma F. N. Eason, daughter of the late George E. and Mary A. Eason.

**RICHARD JACKSON BARKER**—The following is the record of the lines of Barker and Lawton, united in the marriage of Richard Jackson Barker and Eliza Harris Lawton.

(I) The American founder of the Barker branch herein recorded was Robert Barker, who was born in 1616, and came to this country at an early date with John Thorp. In 1641 he was one of those who bought from Jonathan Brewster, son of Elder Brewster, a ferry and one hundred acres of land at Marshfield. Later, he settled in Duxbury, Massachusetts, where he served as surveyor for several years. He died about 1691. He married Lucy Williams, who died March 7, 1681 or 1682. Children: 1. Robert, born February 27, 1630, died September 25, 1729. 2. Francis, died in 1720. 3. Isaac, mentioned below. 4. Abigail, died in May, 1718. 5. Rebecca, died in 1697.

(II) Isaac Barker, son of Robert Barker, was a surveyor of Duxbury in 1674, and a constable in 1687. He married, December 8, 1665, Judith Prince, daughter of Governor Thomas and Mary (Collier) Prince. In 1710 his widow married William Tubbs, of Pembroke. Children: 1. Samuel, born September 2, 1667, died February 1, 1738-39. 2. Isaac, mentioned below. 3. Robert, born in 1673, died September 6, 1765. 4. Jabez. 5. Francis. 6. Rebecca. 7. Mary. 8. Lydia. 9. Judith. 10. Martha. 11. Bathsheba.

(III) Isaac (2) Barker, son of Isaac and Judith (Prince) Barker, seems to have been a man of great business ability, as he was interested in numerous enterprises, owning a grist mill on the Herring brook, engaging in merchandising, in farming, in laying out roads and erecting water works. He was a great student for his day and was a member of the Society of Friends. He died May 7, 1754. He married, October 23, 1707, Elizabeth Slocum, of Dartmouth, daughter of Peleg and Mary (Holden) Slocum; she was born February 12, 1687, and died August 18, 1774. Children: 1. Mary, born August 1, 1708, died in 1788. 2. Sylvester, born in May, 1710. 3. Peleg, born in August, 1712. 4. Prince, mentioned below. 5. Elizabeth, born December 9, 1719. 6. Lydia, died August 13, 1754.

(IV) Prince Barker, son of Isaac (2) and Elizabeth (Slocum) Barker, was born February 9, 1716, and died January 27, 1784. Prince Barker was a very hospitable man and was noted for his honesty. He married, November 6, 1746, Abigail Keen, of Pembroke, daughter of Benjamin and Deborah (Barker) Keen; she was born February 6, 1721, and died September 2, 1790. Children: 1. Prince, born October 26, 1747. 2. Isaac, born May 1, 1749. 3. Abigail, born January 29, 1751. 4. Deborah, born January 29, 1753. 5. Benjamin, mentioned below.

(V) Benjamin Barker, son of Prince and Abigail (Keen) Barker, was born November 30, 1756, and was a prominent and wealthy man. In 1773 he took half the Barker fulling mill, near the homestead, and later bought the homestead and farm in Scitu-

ate. Also he owned considerable property in Tiverton, and was very well-to-do when he died, June 19, 1837. He married (first) January 31, 1785, Ann Barker, daughter of Abraham and Susannah (Anthony) Barker, of Tiverton; she was born August 29, 1750, and died August 16, 1789. He married (second) June 23, 1791, Rebecca Partridge, of Boston, daughter of Captain Samuel Partridge; she was born in 1752, and died August 11, 1835. Children by first wife: 1. Abraham, mentioned below. 2. Susan Ann, born April 27, 1788, died March 5, 1861. By the second wife: 3. Samuel Partridge, born August 2, 1792, died in the far West.

(VI) Abraham Barker, son of Benjamin and Ann (Barker) Barker, was born November 16, 1786, and died February 24, 1855. He married, January 7, 1819, Margaret Buffum, daughter of David and Hepsibah (Mitchell) Buffum; she was born at Newport, Rhode Island, August 27, 1785, and died November 4, 1839. Children: 1. Benjamin, of whom further. 2. Eleanor, born December 4, 1824, died November 29, 1869. 3. Elizabeth Huntington, born August 11, 1826, died May 8, 1900. 4. Margaret Buffum, born April 9, 1829. 5. Anne, born July 20, 1832, died December 15, 1857.

(VII) Benjamin Barker, son of Abraham and Margaret (Buffum) Barker, was born September 24, 1822, and died April 14, 1897. He lived in Tiverton and was extensively engaged in the lumber business. He was highly honored and respected by those who knew him. He married, December 1, 1847, Catherine Jackson Dennis, daughter of James and Hannah (Jackson) Dennis, of Cranston, Rhode Island. She was born December 7, 1829. Children: 1. Richard Jackson, mentioned below. 2. Benjamin, born July 19, 1858. 3. Catherine Wheaton, born January 25, 1863, married Effingham C. Haight, of Fall River, Massachusetts.

(VIII) Richard Jackson Barker, son of Benjamin and Catherine Jackson (Dennis) Barker, was born at Tiverton, Rhode Island, January 27, 1849, and died November 26, 1921. He was named for his maternal great-grandfather, Hon. Richard Jackson, who was a member of Congress from Rhode Island and very prominent in the State. Hon. Richard Jackson was the founder of the Washington Insurance Company, served on the Board of Fellows of Brown University, and filled numerous important offices in the State. He was the father of Governor Charles Jackson, of Rhode Island. Mr. Barker was a descendant of four Colonial governors, including Governor Prince, of Massachusetts, and he traced his ancestry likewise to Roger Williams. He was educated at the Friends' School in Providence, the Eaglewood Military Academy at Perth Amboy, New Jersey, and the Rensselaer Institute, Troy, New York. While a student at the military academy, he enlisted in the Union Army in the Civil War, although then but a boy, and toward the end of the conflict, when only eighteen years of age, he was appointed judge advocate of the First Brigade, Rhode Island Militia, by General Burnside, and served on his staff. In later life, his most cherished possessions were two



swords worn while attached to General Burnside's staff when he held the rank of major. Upon the completion of his education, he entered business with his father, and upon the death of the elder man, continued the Fall River Lumber business alone, in his later years having as his associate and partner his son, Richard Jackson Barker, Jr. Mr. Barker was the founder and the first president of the Warren Trust Company; was prominent in local financial circles; and his reputation in business as in private life was one based upon the strictest integrity. His political faith was Democratic, although his tendencies were independent, and his attitude towards public questions was always marked by a keen desire for public welfare above party success. He served as a member of the Tiverton Town Council, and was its president at one time; and twice was the candidate of his party for the State Senate from Warren. Mr. Barker was a lover of art and all things beautiful. In the communities whose life he touched he is respectfully and affectionately remembered as a man of high principle and kindly spirit.

Richard Jackson Barker married, October 9, 1873, Eliza Harris Lawton (see Lawton VIII). Mr. and Mrs. Barker were the parents of a son, Richard Jackson, Jr., mentioned below.

(IX) Richard Jackson Barker, Jr., son of Richard Jackson and Eliza Harris (Lawton) Barker, was born in Fall River, Massachusetts. He was graduated with honors from the English and Classical Private School in Providence, Rhode Island, in 1894, and entered Brown University, class of 1898, attending two years. After leaving college he was associated with his father in the lumber business in Fall River, Massachusetts, and is now conducting the enterprise, succeeding his father, the Hon. Richard Jackson Barker, with great success. He is the third in a direct line to engage in the lumber business in Fall River, known as the Barker Lumber Company, and now carries on the business very successfully. He is a member of the Masonic order, the Quequechan Club, the Sons of Brown, and the University Club.

Richard Jackson Barker, Jr., married, October 6, 1917, Jessie Satterlee Durfee, a granddaughter of Hon. Nathaniel B. Durfee, member of Congress from Rhode Island. Jessie Satterlee (Durfee) Barker, wife of Richard Jackson Barker, Jr., is also a lineal descendant of Governor William Green, Colonial Governor of Rhode Island. The ceremony was performed in Grace Church, Providence. They have one daughter, Elizabeth Lawton, born February 7, 1919.

(The Lawton Line)

(I) George Lawton, the early ancestor, was among the first settlers at Portsmouth, Rhode Island, being admitted an inhabitant of the Island of Aquidneck in 1638. He was a descendant of Admiral George Lawton, of the Royal Navy. In 1639 he was one of the twenty-nine persons who signed the compact for a body politic. In 1748 he received a grant of forty acres near that of his

brother Thomas, and the same year he was admitted freeman, and was deputy from Portsmouth in 1665-72-75-76-79-80. He was assistant in 1680-81-82-83-84-85-88-89-90. He also held many other important positions, showing his capability and prominence in the colony. He married Elizabeth Hazard, daughter of Thomas and Martha Hazard, and he died October 5, 1693, being buried in his orchard. Children: Isabel; John; Mary; George, mentioned below; Robert; Susanna; Ruth; Mercy; Job and Elizabeth.

(II) George Lawton, son of George and Elizabeth (Hazard) Lawton, married, January 17, 1677, Naomi Hunt, daughter of Bartholomew and Ann Hunt, and lived in Portsmouth. He died September 11, 1697, and his widow married (second) October 11, 1701, Isaac Lawton. Children: 1. Elizabeth, born November 15, 1678. 2. George, mentioned below. 3. Robert, born October 14, 1688. 4. Job, born January 22, 1692.

(III) Captain George Lawton, son of George and Naomi (Hunt) Lawton, was born April 30, 1685, and married, February 26, 1707, Mary Gould, of Newport, the ceremony being performed by Governor Samuel Cranston. He died April 11, 1740. Children, born in Portsmouth: 1. Robert, mentioned below. 2. George, born April 20, 1710. 3. Job, born December 28, 1712, died December 11, 1713. 4. Job, born April 26, 1717.

(IV) Hon. Robert Lawton, son of Captain George and Mary (Gould) Lawton, was born February 4, 1708, and married, November 11, 1742, Mary Hall, daughter of William Hall. Children, born at Portsmouth: 1. George, mentioned below. 2. Mary, born March 31, 1747. 3. Elizabeth, born July 4, 1750. 4. Phebe, born March 30, 1752. 5. Robert, born March 14, 1754. 6. William, born December 26, 1755. 7. John, born November 4, 1757. 8. Ruth, born May 23, 1759. 9. Job, born May 8, 1761. 10. Parker, born April 7, 1764.

(V) Hon. George Lawton, son of Hon. Robert and Mary (Hall) Lawton, was born April 12, 1744. He served in the Revolution in 1777, as a private in the Rhode Island regiment commanded by Colonel John Cook, and while the command was on duty at Fogland Ferry, Rhode Island, Mr. Lawton was wounded in the leg and left arm by a cannon shot from a British ship lying in the Seaconnet river. He married, April 10, 1766, Ruth Brownell. He may have married (second) Anne Borden. Children, born in Portsmouth: 1. Robert, born January 22, 1767. 2. Thomas Brownell, born September 16, 1768. 3. George, mentioned below. 4. Mary H., born April 5, 1772. 5. William, born September 16, 1774. 6. Joseph, born April 2, 1776. 7. Ruth, born October 17, 1786, probably by his second wife.

(VI) Captain George Lawton, son of Hon. George and Ruth (Brownell) Lawton, was born June 7, 1770, and married, January 31, 1808, Patience Turner Lawton, daughter of Hon. Robert and Patience (Turner) Lawton. Patience (Turner) Lawton was the daughter of Dr. John Turner, a Revolutionary surgeon of eminence. Children, born at Portsmouth: 1. Robert N., born October 7, 1808. 2.



George B., born May 1, 1810. 3. William H., born March 20, 1812. 4. Moses Turner, mentioned below. 5. Hannah Turner, married William Bowers Brayton, of Fall River.

(VII) Moses Turner Lawton, son of Captain George and Patience Turner (Lawton) Lawton, was born at Portsmouth, December 25, 1817. His father moved to Tiverton soon after his birth, and here he grew up. His father was a large landowner of Tiverton. Mr. Lawton was a Republican in politics. "Although a man of quiet tastes, his pleasing disposition had made many friends for him during his life of over three score years and ten." He married Elizabeth Tillinghast Harris, descendant of Elder Pardon Tillinghast and Roger Williams, who was one of the early graduates of Warren Seminary, Warren, Rhode Island. He died August 26, 1893, and was buried in Oak Grove Cemetery in Fall River. His wife was active in church and educational work, being one of the first women in the United States to be elected on a school board, an office which her daughter, Mrs. Barker, held for twenty-one consecutive years as the chairman of the school board of Tiverton. Children: Hon. George Robert, born December 31, 1858; Eliza Harris, mentioned below.

(VIII) Eliza Harris Lawton married the Hon. Richard Jackson Barker (see Barker VIII). She completed her school life at Vassar College. She has always been keenly interested in educational affairs, and in 1885 was elected to the school committee of Tiverton, serving as clerk until she made her home in the South. Upon her return to Tiverton, she was again elected to the school committee in 1896, and served as chairman for twenty-one consecutive years. She resigned from office at the end of this time and was most agreeably surprised by a reception tendered her by the townspeople in the parish house of the Central Baptist Church, when she received many testimonials of esteem and numerous gifts, loving cups, paintings, gavels and leather chairs in memory of the occasion. From the founding of the Women's College in Brown University, she has been one of the corporation.

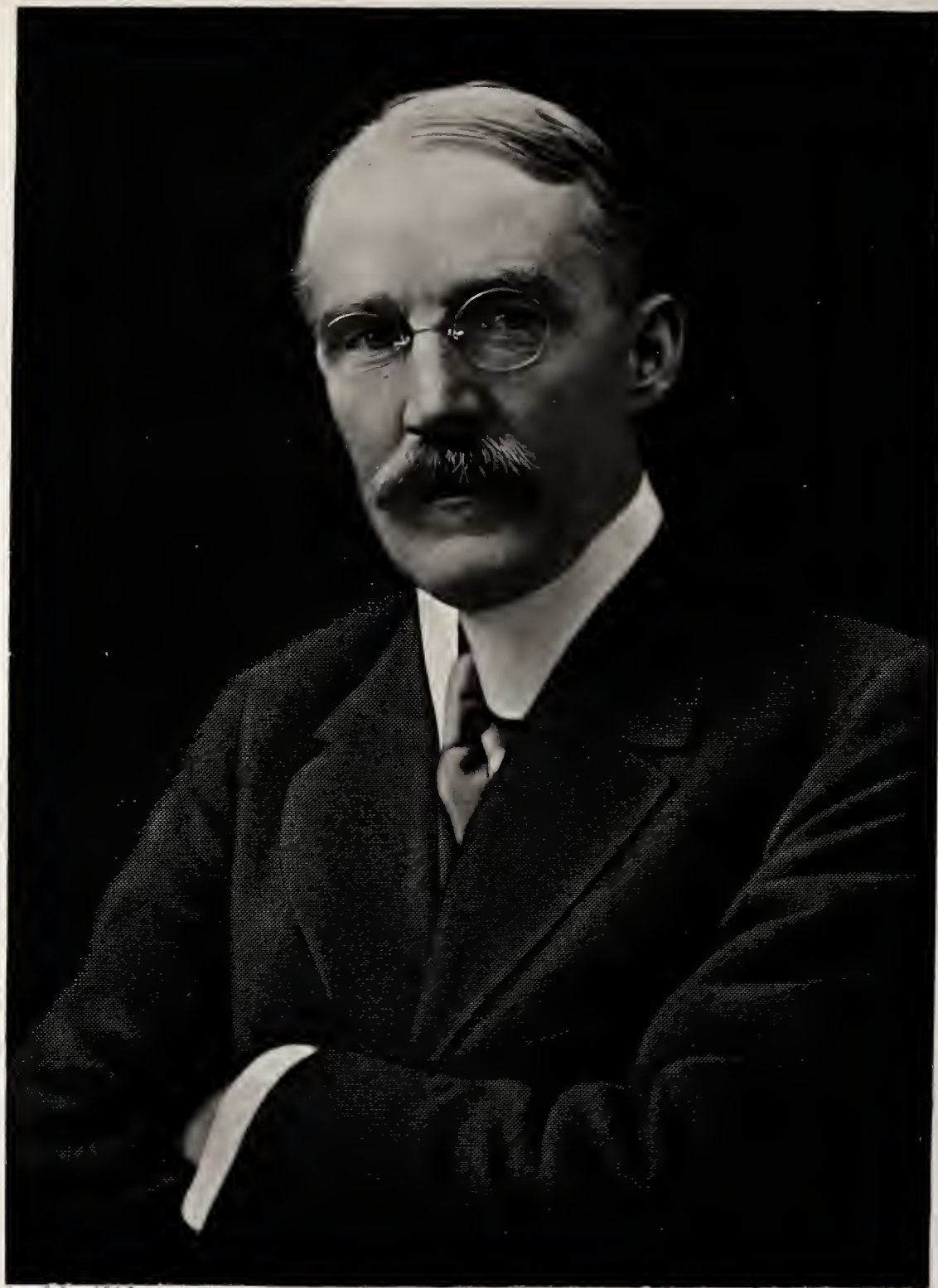
Mrs. Barker has been active in patriotic work, and has long been prominent in the Daughters of the American Revolution. She was regent of the Gaspee Chapter, of Providence, with a membership of more than three hundred, having been the first woman not a resident of Providence to hold that office. Previously she served the chapter as historian for fourteen years, and during that time the office of State historian was created, which she filled for a six-year term under Three State Regents. She was elected by an unusually large vote in the National Congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution to the high office of vice-president general in April, 1906, and during her term of office served upon the most important committees, being chairman of the Magazine Committee, chairman of the Furnishing Committee, member of the Auditing Committee, secretary of the Patriotic Educational Committee, and chairman of the program committee, and secretary of the Philippine Scholarship

Committee. When she resigned the regency of Gaspee Chapter to accept the office in the national organization, she was presented with a silver-mounted gavel in Colonial style, made of wood from the old Gaspee room. Mrs. Barker is an honorary member of several Massachusetts chapters, and is also honorary regent of Gaspee Chapter and honorary State regent of Rhode Island. During her State work she was chairman for thirteen years of the Gaspee Prize Committee at the Women's College of Brown University, and she was chairman for New England for the Daughters of the American Revolution exhibit at the Jamestown Exposition. She has also been historian of the Rhode Island Society of Colonial Dames. Mrs. Barker is State regent for Rhode Island of the Pocahontas Memorial Association, and was a speaker at the turning of the first sod for the monument, when she was presented with the gavel used on that occasion. She is chairman in Rhode Island for the Sulgrave Institute, and a member of the Women's Committee, of which Mrs. Alton Brooks Parker is chairman. She is likewise a member of the Colonial Wars of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and a former organizing State regent of the Daughters of the American Colonists.

For many years Mrs. Barker has been vice-president of the Rhode Island Institute of Instruction, and has served upon its important committees. During the Spanish-American War she was one of the chairmen of the Rhode Island Sanitary Relief Association, was vice-president of the Tiverton branch of the Rhode Island Anti-Tuberculosis Society, was a commissioner at the Atlanta Exposition, is a director of the Woman's Union, and on the board of the Woman's Exchange in Fall River, as well as serving as secretary of the Emergency Hospital of the city until it was merged with the present Union Hospital. Since that time she has served upon the board and as secretary and vice-president of the Union Hospital. Mrs. Barker is a former visitor to the Rhode Island State College, having served for several years. She is a member of the Republican State Central Committee for Newport county, embracing Newport, Jamestown, Middletown, Little Compton, Portsmouth and Tiverton; and of the Republican Women's Executive Committee, appointed by the Men's Republican State Central Committee. She is also on the executive board of the Newport County Republican Club; a former member of the board of governors of the Rhode Island Women's Republican Club; and a member of the Women's Club of Fall River. Mrs. Barker is a charter member of the Republican Club of New York, and on November 27, 1923, was appointed a member of the executive board of the Republican Finance Committee of Rhode Island, having already been a member of the Finance Committee and the only woman from Newport county so honored. In the course of her civic and patriotic activity, Mrs. Barker had contributed articles to several magazines and she is also the author of a historical volume, "The Daughters of Liberty." Mrs. Barker's mother, Elizabeth Tillinghast (Harris) Lawton, the







Lewis Historical Pub Co

Eng by E. C. Williams & Bro. N.Y.

Nathaniel Durfee



first woman school board member in the United States, was a woman of prominence and usefulness in educational affairs in Rhode Island. Her mantle fell upon her daughter, and the choice of Mrs. Barker as the speaker of the day upon the fortieth anniversary of the Rhode Island Normal School was a tribute to the service of both. Mrs. Barker possesses great executive ability, is a graceful presiding officer and a ready public speaker." She is a woman of splendid presence, and has lent her support and influence to many worthy patriotic and civic causes.

The former home of Mrs. Barker is well named "The Outlook," and has an unrivalled location in Tiverton, overlooking Narragansett Bay and the surrounding country about Mount Hope Bay. The grounds were artistically laid out by Mrs. Barker, and the mansion was tastefully and beautifully appointed. They had a fine library and have collected treasures from all parts of the world. Mrs. Barker's collection of more than 11,000 book plates, said to be one of the best in this country, and the first made by a woman, was exhibited at the Atlanta Exposition and was awarded a medal.

**NATHAN DURFEE**—The importance of the position Nathan Durfee holds, plant executive and assistant treasurer of the American Printing Company, can be better appreciated by knowing that the corporation whose destinies he guides operates 500,000 spindles in its mills, manufacturing cotton cloth, and converting it into prints and percales in its print works, which is the second largest plant in the United States in the number of printing machines in use and the largest in production, 5,600 hands being employed. Mr. Durfee is a native son of Fall River, and of a family long connected with the manufacturing, financial and civic interests of that city; in fact, Durfees were large landowners at Fall River long before the building of the town. In addition to the large holdings inherent in the family, Thomas Durfee, of the third generation, married Patience Borden, daughter of Joseph Borden, of Freetown, and united the fortunes of two of the leading families of the district. The early Durfees were landowners and agriculturists, but in the fourth generation Charles Durfee became prominent in public life, and his son, Dr. Nathan Durfee, a physician, finally retired from his professional work and became identified with the moral and religious life of Fall River. His son, Holder Borden Durfee, gave himself to cotton manufacturing, as has the latter's son, Nathan Durfee, to whom reference was made in the opening paragraph. He is of the seventh American generation of his family and has won high standing in the business world, worthily representing this ancient Fall River family.

(I) The family history begins in England, where Thomas Durfee, born in England in 1643, settled in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, in 1660. He later acquired title to lands at what is now the city of Fall River, his tract covering the area from Rodman to Osborn streets on the south, and from the shore to Eight Rod Way. He bought that tract of

William Manchester in 1680, and gave it to his son, Benjamin Durfee, in 1709.

(II) Benjamin Durfee, son of Thomas Durfee, in addition to the lands given him by his father, purchased more, becoming one of the largest landowners of the city. He married Prudence Earle in 1699, and to his son Captain William Durfee, he gave the land given him by his father. Among the children of Benjamin and Prudence (Earle) Durfee was a son, Thomas, of further mention.

(III) Thomas Durfee was born in Tiverton, Rhode Island, November 5, 1721, and became one of the magnates of his day, living in a manner commensurate with his wealth. The farm on which he lived and died he inherited from his father, it including all that part of the Fall River of the present day lying north of the line of Elm street and south of Turner street, extending from the shore to Watuppa Lake. He owned other large tracts, and on the death of his father-in-law, Joseph Borden, of Freetown, he came into possession of valuable water power. He enclosed a large park, in which he maintained a herd of deer, and at his home he entertained with generous and warm-hearted hospitality. Among his guests was General Lafayette, who upon his return to France acknowledged his entertainment by the Durfees by the gift of a pair of blooded French hounds. A high-minded, upright and intelligent man, he was called to high place in the public service, and during the Revolution he used a large portion of his estate to further the cause of independence. He represented Freetown (now Fall River) for many years in the Great Court and in the General Court; sat in the State Senate thirteen sessions by election; was a member of the governor's council six years, and judge of the Court of Sessions for Bristol county several years. He died at his home July 9, 1796. Thomas Durfee married, August 9, 1747, Patience Borden, of Freetown, daughter of Joseph Borden, and they were the parents of a large family, including a son, Charles, of further mention.

(IV) Charles Durfee was born in Tiverton, Rhode Island, November 20, 1761, became one of the leading citizens of Fall River, and there died February 8, 1812. A man of means, he gave his time to the care of his private estate and to the public service. He served as local magistrate (justice of the peace) for many years, was selectman of the town, and in 1803 called to meet in his office the citizens who wished to discuss the advisability of incorporating the town of Fall River. He married, in Freetown, Massachusetts, November 23, 1792, Welthe Hathaway of Freetown, born there in 1771, died at Fall River in February, 1851, daughter of Gilbert and Mary (Weaver) Hathaway. She survived her husband, and married (second) at Fall River, June 7, 1820, Silas Payne. Descent is traced in this branch through Dr. Nathan, eldest son of the ten children of Charles and Welthe (Hathaway) Durfee.

(V) Dr. Nathan Durfee was born in then Freetown, now Fall River, Massachusetts, June 18, 1799, and died there April 6, 1876. After public school



courses he entered Brown University, whence he was graduated A. B., class of 1824. Later choosing a profession, he prepared at Harvard Medical School and in 1831 was awarded the degree of M. D. by that institution. He practiced his profession for a time at Fall River, also, and for several years, conducted a drug store located in the first brick structure erected in the township. Later, after building his own brick residence at the northeast corner of Bank and North Main streets, he established his drug store in that building. Dr. Durfee did not enjoy his professional work and finally retired from both his profession and the drug business, and while he was most of his active life interested in Fall River Mills and manufacturing he had, like his ancestors, a great love for the land and gave himself to the care of his estate, owning it is said about 1,000 acres at one time. Among the manufacturing and transportation corporations which he served as a director were the Iron Works; American Print Works; the Old Fall River railroad and the Cape Cod railroad. He was one of the owners of the Bay State Steamboat Line; was principal owner of the Massasoit Steam Print Works, which burned in 1875; was interested in several banks, and after the fire of 1843 he built the Mt. Hope block, to be used as a hotel.

Dr. Durfee was a member of the Congregational church, a founder of its Sunday school, and a leader in moral thought, his activities covering a wide range. He was also a leader in civic affairs, held several city offices, and represented his district in the State House of Representatives. His large estate was divided by a will probated June 18, 1876, among his children, generous bequests being also made to the Foreign and Home Missionary societies. He was a man of broad sympathies, public-spirited and progressive, few men leaving a more beneficial impress upon the life of Fall River than Dr. Nathan Durfee.

Dr. Durfee married at Fall River, April 24, 1827, Delena Borden, born May 5, 1801, and died January 30, 1863, daughter of Captain George Borden, of the prominent Borden family. Dr. and Mrs. Durfee were parents of five children, all born at Fall River: Mary Maria, born July 8, 1829; Minerva, born January 24, 1836, died May 11, 1837; Harriet M., born July 20, 1838; Holder Borden, of whom further; and Annie G., born May 6, 1842.

(VI) Holder Borden Durfee, only son of Dr. Nathan and Delena (Borden) Durfee, was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, September 20, 1840, died in the city of his birth March 4, 1919. He was a man of education and sterling business quality, growing into prominence as a cotton manufacturer and having intimate connections with several large corporations. He was one of the founders and a director of the Montauk Mills (later known as the Osborn Mill No. 2); held the same relation to the Annawan Manufactory and to the Narragansett Mills, he also serving the last-named as president. He took a deep interest in municipal affairs, and in 1875 served as chief engineer of the Volunteer

Fire Department. He was an official member of Central Congregational Church, and a member of the building committee in charge of the erection of the church edifice dedicated December 13, 1875. He met all the responsibilities of citizenship fairly, shirking no duty and meeting to the full every obligation imposed upon him.

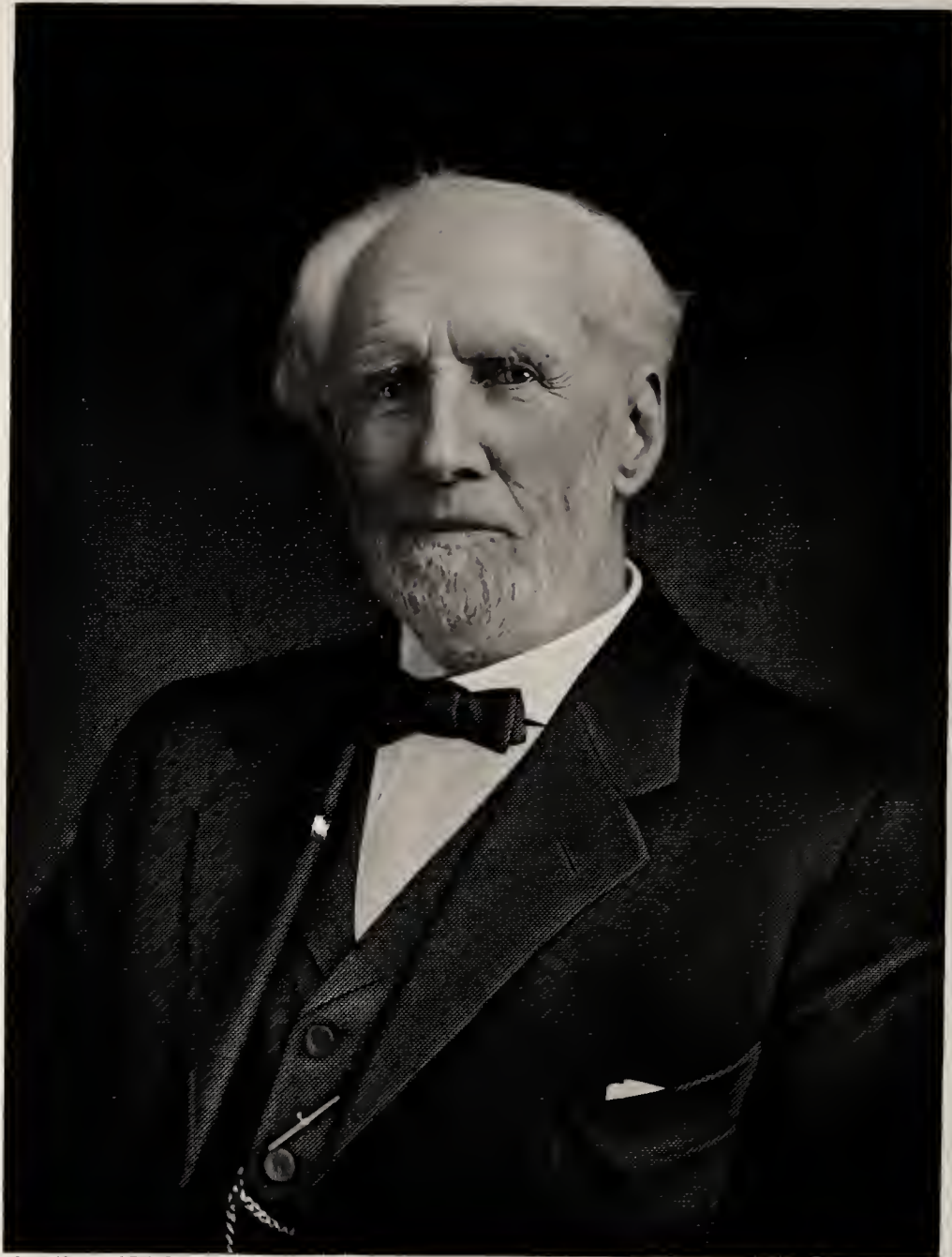
Holder B. Durfee married, at Fall River, October 25, 1865, Sylvia B. Durfee, born September 6, 1844, died October 8, 1882, daughter of Joseph and Minerva (Chace) Durfee. Mr. and Mrs. Durfee were the parents of a son, Nathan, of whom further; and a daughter, Anne D., born May 5, 1871.

(VII) Nathan Durfee, only son of Holder Borden and Sylvia B. (Durfee) Durfee, was born at Fall River, the home of his ancestors for two and one-half centuries, and the birthplace of his grandfather, Dr. Nathan Durfee, whose name he bears. He was born September 11, 1867, and there yet resides, the years having brought him the responsibilities of the manufacturer and financier as well as their rewards. After completing public school study with graduation from B. M. C. Durfee High School, Fall River, in 1885, Nathan Durfee entered Massachusetts Institute of Technology, whence he was graduated B. S., class of 1889. He then spent one year as civil engineer with the Massachusetts Sewerage Commission, then was with the Thompson-Houston Electric Company of Boston, and after the merging of that company with the General Electric Company he was for a year located in Schenectady, New York, with the latter company. He then returned to Fall River, where in 1895 he became a member of the cotton brokerage firm, Bassett & Durfee, an association that continued until 1912, when he became assistant treasurer and plant executive of the American Printing Company. He is also a director of the American Printing Company; Fall River Iron Works Company; the Metacomet National Bank; Fall River Manufacturers' Mutual Insurance Company; Fall River Electric Light Company; Fall River Gas Works Company; and is a trustee of the Fall River Five Cent Savings Bank. He is vice-president of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers, and by virtue of his office a member of the executive committee. He ably fills his place in the business life of his city, where so long the name of Durfee has been so well and so favorably known, and in his keeping the best traditions of the family are secure.

During the World War period, 1917-18, Mr. Durfee aided all in his power through committees and personal work in the activities of those two important years. He served as vice-chairman of the Second and subsequent Liberty Loan Committees, and was a member of the City Committee on Preparedness, also served on the executive committee of the Red Cross. In politics he is a Republican, now chairman of the City Planning Board of Fall River and interested in all civic affairs. He serves Central Congregational Church as a member of the executive board. He is interested in the Boys' Club, of which he is vice-president and member of







Lewis Historical Pub. Co

Eng. by E. G. Williams 2 Bre. NY

*John C. Milne.*



the finance committee. His clubs are the Quequechan; Fall River Country, which was organized in his office in 1898 and of which he was president the first few years of its life; Rhode Island Country; Acoaxet; Merchants', and Union League of New York City; and the Wardroom, of Boston

Mr. Durfee married, June 2, 1897, Helena Woodrow Brown, of Chillicothe, Ohio, born November 30, 1869, daughter of Allison and Elizabeth (Barry) Brown. To Mr. and Mrs. Durfee two children have been born: Dorothy, born October 15, 1900, at Fall River; she was educated at Miss Porter's School at Farmington, Connecticut. 2. Nathan Barry, born May 11, 1904, at Fall River; he is a graduate of Hotchkiss Preparatory School, Lakeville, Connecticut, class of 1922, now a freshman at Yale University.

**JOHN CRUICKSHANK MILNE**—On his ninetyeth birthday, May 18, 1914, John C. Milne, after eighty-two years of continuous and conscientious labor as a printer, retired from the publication of the Fall River "Evening News," in the founding of which he was concerned as a partner sixty-nine years earlier in life. He was at that time (1914) believed to be the oldest active printer in the world, both in actual years and in years of service. A photograph taken the preceding April 22, shows him true to life after an earthly pilgrimage covering ninety years, and every man who looks upon him may breathe the thought: "May I look as well and bear my part as well as did he." The record of his connection with the printing trade as compositor and publisher for more than fourscore years has perhaps never been surpassed in newspaper history.

The "News" was founded by Thomas Almy and John C. Milne as a weekly, April 3, 1845. Mr. Milne was then not quite twenty-one years of age. Fall River was a town of about 10,000 inhabitants. Mr. Milne's life, the growth of the "News," and the growth of Fall River have been closely identified since. Mr. Milne was actively engaged on the paper up to November, 1913, when he passed his interest to his son, Joseph D. Milne, who had been connected with the "News" since July, 1877, as reporter and managing editor, and for several years as part owner. He now has a half ownership with Frank S. Almy, who succeeded to the half interest held by his father, Franklin L. Almy, upon the latter's death, June 12, 1912. Mr. Almy has been connected with the business office since July, 1896, succeeding his father as business manager.

John Cruickshank Milne was born in Milfield, Scotland, May 18, 1824. He was the son of Sergeant John Cruickshank, paymaster of a British regiment stationed in Scotland, and Annie Milne, daughter of Rev. John Milne, a Baptist clergyman. His parents died when he was three or four years of age, and he was brought up by his grandparents, Rev. and Mrs. John Milne, who formally adopted him after coming to the United States. He received his primary education in a private school at Glas-

gow, and with his grandparents and an uncle came to Pictou, Nova Scotia, in 1832. There, at the age of eight years, he went to work in the printing office of an uncle, making his advent in a trade that was to become his life work. A keen mind and a natural aptitude for the mechanical part of the trade enabled him to develop into a rapid and accurate compositor in a comparatively brief time. Three years later, in 1835, came the only lengthy interruption that was to figure in his life as a printer for more than fourscore years. With his grandparents and an uncle he came to Fall River, Massachusetts, where other uncles had made homes already. No opportunity to continue in the printing trade presented itself, and he secured work in the blue dye house of the calico print works, conducted on Pocasset street by Andrew Robeson & Son, his pay \$2.25 a week, the hours from five o'clock in the morning until six o'clock at night. He remained in the print works three years. Cloth printing by machinery was in its infancy at that time. The methods which had been devised and the machines which had been constructed were but half successful, and printing at the Robeson factory was still done by the primitive block printing system. One impression of the figure on the pattern was conveyed to the white cloth by each application of an engraved wooden block, which was first immersed in the coloring matter, then carefully placed upon the cloth to be printed, and tapped smartly with a mallet to transfer the imprint.

An act of the Massachusetts Legislature early in 1838, and the broad-minded generosity of Andrew Robeson, proprietor of the print works, had an important effect in shaping Mr. Milne's life during the next few years. This legislative act prohibited the employment of children under fourteen years of age unless they were allowed to attend school at least three months in the year, or for periods approximating that time. Mr. Robeson, realizing that the loss of three months' wages would be a hardship to the parents of the 150 boys employed in his works, established a system of part-time schooling, giving them three hours a day for the entire year, saving their earnings to their families, and more than fulfilling the requirements of the law.

This opportunity for improvement was eagerly grasped by young Milne, then in his fourteenth year. The boys in each room in the factory were divided into three classes, and for three hours each day each class studied and recited under the direction of Louis Lapham, afterwards for many years a practicing attorney in Fall River and judge of its police court. Mr. Lapham, a block printer of more than ordinary intellectual attainments, was paid nine dollars a week for his services as an instructor. Mr. Lapham also opened an evening school at the corner of South Main and Anawan streets, and the name of John Milne was enrolled as a student there, too. Such ambition was bound to attract attention, and the interest which Mr. Lapham found himself taking in young Milne resulted in his discovery that the boy could set type.



Mr. Lapham's knowledge of this fact proved the means of returning the boy to his trade. William Canfield had just started the publication of the Fall River "Patriot and Tiverton Advertiser," and when Mr. Lapham told Mr. Canfield of his factory-boy student who could set type, Milne received and accepted an offer to enter the "Patriot" office as a compositor. His wages were increased to four dollars a week. The "Patriot and Advertiser" was the first of a series of papers of varying lengths of life, all more or less short, upon which Mr. Milne worked during the next six years. The interurban nature of its title emphasizes the close connection of Fall River, Massachusetts, and Tiverton, Rhode Island, at that time, and also tells a good deal about the newspaper of the day, and the extremely precarious chances for their success. The publication of the laws enacted by Congress in three papers in each State was an important item of revenue, and the Fall River "Patriot and Tiverton Advertiser" was selected as one to reap the welcome harvest in Rhode Island. The setting up of these laws was one of the tasks given young John Milne.

It was while working in the office of the "Patriot and Advertiser" that one of the strongest and most helpful friendships of Mr. Milne's life was formed. There he met Thomas Almy, a native of Tiverton, who had learned his trade as a printer with the Bristol, Rhode Island, "Phoenix." Mr. Almy was the older, but the difference in their ages was never a barrier to their intimate friendship. Mr. Milne worked with and for Mr. Almy on several local papers and later, as stated above, became a partner with him in founding the Fall River "News". One of the papers which Mr. Almy published, with Jonathan Slade, and on which Mr. Milne worked, was a weekly called the Fall River "Argus." It was printed in New Bedford, and was brought to Fall River each week by stage coach. Its life, like that of most of the local papers of the day, was not long.

The six years after 1838 were important ones to Milne. While he worked long hours in the printing office he was enabled also, through persistent application and the kindly thoughtfulness of his friend, Mr. Almy, to continue his studies in Latin, Greek and mathematics. During one of the periods between these short-lived weeklies, Mr. Milne entered Pierce Academy in Middleboro. He had saved a little money, and with the aid of relatives and the encouragement of Mr. Almy, he improved the opportunity to increase his learning. Filled with a genuine desire to acquire an education he applied the same principle of concentration to his studies that he had given his work in the printing office. His willing expenditure of effort again attracted attention. The principal of the academy, Avery Briggs, became interested in him and in his work, and noting the evidences of a bright intellect urged him to prepare for college. But the boy was penniless and without friends who could give him financial assistance, and at the end of six months he returned to Fall River and the printing office. His friends, Thomas Almy, drove to Middleboro for

him, and the two returned to prepare another weekly newspaper for the people of Fall River village. Though still but a dim hope, the idea of entering a college was allowed to die. Mr. Almy encouraged him to continue his studies and so arranged his hours of work that he could recite each day to Rev. George M. Randall, the first permanent Episcopal rector in Fall River, and later the first bishop of Colorado. The boy arose each morning at five o'clock to study before going to the newspaper office for a day's work. Each noon at Rev. Mr. Randall's house he recited his translations of Virgil, Cicero or New Testament Greek. When George B. Stone opened the first high school in Fall River, May 10, 1849, Mr. Milne took up his studies there in mathematics. Brown University was the ambition of most Fall River boys at that time who aspired to a college education, and it was still Milne's hope ultimately to matriculate there.

The great fire which devastated Fall River on Sunday, July 2, 1843, created a big demand for labor in the reconstruction that followed, and brought in a larger number of carpenters and masons than the town had ever seen. The advent of this large body of workmen of an intelligent class had an immediate effect, and occasioned a local agitation for a ten-hour day system, instead of the thirteen and fourteen-hour workday that was the rule throughout New England. An organization known as the Mechanics' Association was formed, with Thomas Almy and John C. Milne as two of its members. Mr. Almy and two others were appointed a publishing committee, and on Saturday, April 27, 1844, Mr. Almy published the first issue of the "Mechanic," a weekly devoted almost entirely to the cause of the workman and the agitation of the ten-hour day. Upon Milne, twenty years old at this time, devolved the greater part of the work of setting the type for the paper. Young Milne retained his interest in the labor question through the months that followed, and when the Bristol County Charitable Mechanics' Association was formed early in 1845, he was elected its secretary. This organization had fifty mechanics enrolled at its start. Its purposes were "union and benevolence."

During all this time Milne had been pursuing his studies, still in the hope of eventually entering Brown University, but in the fall of 1844, finding himself still without means, he abandoned this cherished purpose. The town was resuming its normal condition. Houses and business buildings had been rebuilt, and with the reconstruction of the burned portion of the village masons and carpenters left for their homes in other places. With their departure the enthusiasm in the ten-hour day agitation suffered a corresponding decrease. Interest in the Mechanics' Association waned, and the "Mechanic" felt the reaction in the loss of subscribers. A debt of about one hundred dollars assumed gigantic proportions in the face of the paper's restricted finances. On April 2, 1845, its publication ceased.

Mr. Milne resolved to go to New York, where



there were greater opportunities, and on August 27, 1844, he left Fall River on the sloop "Rollo" of Somerset, which carried him as far as Flushing, Long Island. In New York he chanced to meet Rev. Asa Bronson, his pastor, a clergyman whose impress upon Fall River remained for many years, a friend of the working people, and a staunch supporter of the "Mechanic" and the Mechanics' Association. He told Mr. Bronson of his hope of finding employment in one of the New York printing offices and received a proffer of the clergyman's help. Mr. Bronson took him to the home of Mayor James Harper, founder of the great publishing house of Harper Brothers. Mayor Harper received them kindly but could give the lad no employment at that time, as many of his old employes were temporarily without work.

Young Milne went to the printing office of Leavitt, Trow & Company in Ann street, where Alfred G. Pierce, formerly a compositor on the Fall River "Monitor," was employed. Mr. Pierce introduced the boy to his foreman, Mr. Flagg. There was no opening at that time, but Mr. Flagg promised him a place as soon as possible. Milne returned to Fall River and a few weeks later he received a call to go to work. Leavitt, Trow & Company employed about forty or fifty men. The firm was engaged in the printing of a number of large books and Young Milne was immediately set to work, with a number of other compositors, on a 1,500 page job. Each man was handed several pages of copy. In a short time, but long before any of the older and more experienced printers had finished their stints, young Milne was back to the foreman for more copy. The foreman was astounded. He refused at first to believe that the boy had finished with his first allotment. But when the galley of type was shown a new speed marvel was added to the boasts of the shop. The boy was but bearing out the predictions for his success as a compositor which had been made for him in Fall River. By one writer in Fall River he had been referred to as "our office boy John, who sticks type like all possessed." Mr. Jewell, assistant foreman in the office of Leavitt, Trow & Company, declared him to be "a perfect salamander."

Through the system of giving out work to the compositors in the office, an increasingly large share of the copy passed through young Milne's hands. In spite of the fact that he was receiving but two-thirds of the wages paid the other printers, because he was under age, he was doing more work than any of them. His supremacy in speed and accuracy came to be unquestioned, a fact that was definitely decided when Lawrence Cummings, one of the compositors, came to him and said: "John, until you came they called me the fastest compositor in the office." Cummings, instead of being jealous of the new compositor, became Milne's staunch friend and remained so until his death. This ability to compete successfully with grown men of wide experience was a cheering factor in young Milne's life. Though practically destitute of means and dependent upon his own resources for his

livelihood, he was never without a light heart. So long as there were printing offices he felt secure in his ability to make his way; if he was allowed to go into an office and demonstrate his ability to set type he knew that his chances of winning employment were better than even. Upon leaving New York he received a most gratifying commendation from his foreman, who said: "John is not only very swift, but also very accurate."

The latter part of 1844 formed one of the most important passages in the young man's life. While he was in New York, Thomas Almy was contemplating the publication of a new weekly in Fall River. The early deaths of the half dozen or more papers on which both he and young Milne had worked during the preceding six years had not convinced him that Fall River did not offer a field for another weekly. He wrote his belief to young Milne, asking him to return to Fall River and become his partner in the new enterprise. Mr. Almy had about \$600 in accumulated savings. His young friend, underpaid because he had not yet attained his majority, and requiring practically all he earned for his living, had nothing. That is, he had no money to put into the business. But he had something of equal if not greater value—ability. Mr. Almy, although a good workman, had not had the advantages of much schooling. The studies in which young Milne had delved in his preparation for college had given him an ability to write that would be of immeasurable help on the proposed paper. All these things were considered in the discussions which preceded the foundation of the "News." Young Milne left the Leavitt, Trow & Company office in New York and returned to Fall River on Christmas eve, 1844. A few days later he and his partner went to Boston and bought an equipment for their office.

How closely these two young men had come to be identified with the newspaper work on this section was shown by an offer made to them by a number of New Bedford men at about this time. The "Mercury," which supported the Whig party in politics, was the only paper published in New Bedford, and a number of influential citizens desired a paper that would disseminate Free Soil principles. The two young men from Fall River were invited to attend a meeting in the office of Mayor Rodney French. There found there eight prominent men who offered to make them a gift of \$1,000 and to guarantee 800 subscribers for the proposed paper at the start. Milne, who had been given a strict religious training, declined to enter into the negotiations when he learned that a morning paper was wanted, which would necessitate working on Sundays, but recommended Edmond Anthony, who then was publishing the "Independent Gazette" at Taunton, Massachusetts. Mr. Anthony accepted the offer and the new paper, known as the New Bedford "Standard," was established in 1850. About this time an offer to take charge of a Providence paper was also declined by Mr. Milne.

The first issue of the Fall River "News" was printed on, a hard working hand press on the sec-



ond floor office at No. 5 Bedford street, April 3, 1845. The name had been chosen after many suggestions; most of them, high sounding and presumptuous, had been discarded. The junior partner gave expression to his feelings on the question, when one friend suggested "The Spirit of the Age." "How much of the spirit of the age can we express in this little manufacturing village, of which the world has hardly heard, as yet? Our only purpose can be to give the public the news, and let that be our title." The lofty captions in whose origin Pegasus might be traced were laid aside; the elaborate headings which had been "set up," "proved up" and studied were "thrown in" and the plain, straightforward caption, the Fall River "Weekly News," appeared in their place. The task which faced the partners was one of grown man proportions. As Mr. Milne's first biographer said in a volume published in 1890, "One of a Thousand:" "The difficulties experienced in those days, when these two young men undertook the work, were laborious, and their lives self-denying; but by incessant application and rigorous economy they achieved success."

Fall River, the field of their labors, had a population at that time of about 10,000 people. The "News" was started with 500 subscribers. All the matter that went into its forms was set by hand by the two partners. Every Wednesday afternoon the paper went to press, each partner running off half the edition on the cumbersome, hand-operated machine. This part of the work came particularly hard on the slightly built, young partner, who was compelled to use all his strength and weight on every impression. Young Milne wrote much of the local news that went into its columns. Within a few weeks after the issue of the first edition of the weekly, Benjamin F. Glasby of Providence was added to the office staff. Mr. Glasby was rated high among the swiftest compositors of New England, but when he engaged in a contest with young Milne, he was compelled to admit the latter's superior speed. His youthful employer set 1,680 ems, long primer, each hour for four successive hours, or 6,720 ems. The remarkable nature of this performance may be realized when it is stated that 1,000 ems an hour in long primer was held to be good typesetting.

Dr. Phineas W. Leland, collector of the port of Fall River, was one of the first regular contributors to the columns of the "News." His assistant, Jonathan Slade, wrote items of marine and general intelligence. John Westall was the author of an article in the first and in numerous subsequent issues. Accounts of accidents and happenings which came under his notice were contributed by Dr. Foster Hooper.

Beginning as they did with extremely limited capital and with an established paper competing against them in a limited field, the two young men had a battle facing them that might well inspire older business men with awe. When their first ton of coal was purchased they could not afford to pay for having it carried upstairs to their office,

so they essayed the task themselves and carried it in in baskets from where it had been dumped on the sidewalk. Henry Fish, a local banker, watched them with interest. "Those boys will make it go," he prophesied. At the end of three years the business began to show signs of ultimate success, and each partner received \$516 for his twelve months of taxing toil. For the two preceding years neither had drawn what he might have earned at his trade. But the "News" was winning the commendation of the public for its enterprise and thoroughness in covering the local field, and the realization of doing something for themselves and doing that something well spurred the young men on.

A job printing business in connection with the newspaper office was for the first three or four years about all that kept them above water. This branch of the business received a helpful impetus in the acquisition of the work of a thread manufacturer, Oliver Chace. The spirit of accommodation which the young men had made a part of their business policy was the direct cause of their favor in Mr. Chace's eyes. When he came to them one day and asked them to print him a number of labels immediately, they abandoned the task in hand and did it, although the return was but \$1.25. A rival printer had refused to do the work in the time stipulated, a fact that lost him a valuable customer, and gave to the young publishers of the "News" one of their greatest helps.

After eight years in the second-story office on Bedford street, the "News" moved to the northeast corner of North Main and Market streets, again on the second floor. Up to this time and for several years after the partners put back much of the earnings of both the job office and of the weekly into the business. Their old back-breaking hand-press was discarded for a second-hand Adams press, the first power-press to be used in the city. As no mechanical power was at first available, a man was hired to turn the driving wheel, a position which brought him the sobriquet "the power of the press." When Prentiss' laundry was opened in an adjoining building, a belt was run from the laundry engine through one of the printing office windows to the press. A single-cylinder press and a double-cylinder press, with a separate folding machine, came into the office in the course of time, as the subscription lists increased.

The first issue of the "News" was delivered by its publishers. After a few weeks two carriers were employed. One of these was Franklin L. Almy, who, although of the same name as the senior partner, was not related to him. The younger Almy was twelve years of age at that time and he delivered the paper to all subscribers living north of the Quequechan river. Another boy had for his district that section of the town south of the stream, which was to become the nucleus of the greatest cotton manufacturing city in the country. Franklin L. Almy became infected with the fascination of the printer's ink, and in the following September he entered the News office as an apprentice. He became a journeyman in 1850, foreman of the



job office a short time later, and in 1862 he was taken into the firm as a partner. Upon the death of Thomas Almy, in 1882, John C. Milne and Franklin L. Almy purchased his interest in the publishing and printing business, and continued as partners until the second Mr. Almy's death, June 12, 1912.

At the start, the "News" was a Democrat paper, remaining an advocate of the principles of the party until the Democracy went over to the slave-holders of the South just before the Civil War. From the beginning it was a staunch advocate of human freedom, the cause of temperance, and the best interests of the community in general. Its young publishers gave it a reputation for accuracy and high purpose, and soon brought it to a point of influence and power in the town. An attention to local news unusual in that day made it popular from the beginning. The "Monitor," begun in 1826, went out of existence soon after the War of the Rebellion. The "Monitor" was Whig in politics and upheld the old, high protective system. Its followers were the followers of Henry Clay. The young publishers of the "News" inclined to the political faith of the Democrats, under Martin Van Buren, and advocated the introduction of free trade to a certain extent. In many ways it succeeded the "Mechanic," many of the subscribers of that paper changing over to the "News" when it made its appearance.

How stringent were the early circumstances of the young men is shown in an incident of their paper's early existence, an incident which also shows the indomitable spirit that was a noteworthy factor in Mr. Milne's ultimate success. A wealthy and extremely influential resident of the town had become interested in the ambitious spirit displayed by young Milne. After first testing the boy's mettle with a contemptuous denunciation of his paper, and finding pleasure in the sturdy, yet respectful answer, he relaxed his habitually serious expression into a smile and openly complimented the young men on the readable character of the paper. Young Milne immediately returned to the printing office, and obtaining from his partner a bill for two years' subscription to the paper, one year of which was already overdue, he hurried to the office of the big man of business. The latter, upon ascertaining that the bill was for two years instead of for the one that he owed, demanded the reason. "Well," was the reply, "we have trusted you for a year, and we thought you might be willing to trust us for a year, now." He received the payment for the two years, \$2.00, and won a steadfast friend in the wealthy business man.

Charles Sumner, who added so much to the fame of Massachusetts in the United States Senate, and who figured so prominently in the legislative battles over the slavery question, owed his election in no small measure to the virile pen and fiery enthusiasm of Mr. Milne. Sumner was elected April 23, 1851, on the twenty-sixth ballot. He received 193 votes in the General Court, against 166 cast for Robert C. Winthrop, his opponent. There

were twenty-five scattering votes and two blanks. Eleven days before, on Saturday afternoon, April 12, a meeting was held in Fall River, in response to the following call written by Mr. Milne: "Freemen of Fall River! As you love Liberty and would see the cause of Freedom sustained and vindicated in a National Senate, be on hand and vote for the instructions. As you loathe slavery and would spurn the man hunter from your soil, be there and bear your strong testimony against the detestable Fugitive Slave Law." The meeting adopted resolutions instructing the four Fall River representatives in the General Court to vote for Charles Sumner for the United States Senate, rather than the Whig candidate, Winthrop. As a result, one of the four, N. B. Borden, elected as Whig, changed his vote and broke the deadlock which had tied the election. Senator Hoar, speaking at a dinner in memory of Charles Sumner, in Boston, in 1894, referred to the effect of the memorable meeting which responded to Mr. Milne's call as "the instruction . . . which decided the great contest when Mr. Sumner was elected Senator in 1851."

In 1851 James Buffinton was elected to Congress from the Fall River district, and he named Mr. Milne clerk of the House Committee on Accounts. Thus it was that Mr. Milne spent five or six months at the national capital during the early part of the Civil War. He was there when the first battle of Bull Run was fought. He saw the troops march out of Washington, pass General Scott in review, and onward to where they were to meet the Confederate Army. He was in the midst of the stirring scenes at the nation's headquarters during the troublous times that followed. When he was not engaged in his duties at the Capitol he visited the various hospitals in the city in search of Fall River boys who might have been wounded in the army campaigns. On one of these visits, after a two-mile tramp through mud ankle deep, he met Mrs. Rebecca L. Pomeroy, matron of Columbia College Hospital. Mrs. Pomeroy had helped the wife of President Lincoln care for their little son Tad, during the illness that resulted in his death. From her Mr. Milne heard, at first hand, the touching story of the Martyred President's terrible suffering; his agony at the bedside of his dying son; and his equally great sorrow at the realization that the country was in the midst of a mighty conflict. Mr. Milne had stood at the gate of the White House grounds as the little white coffin was borne out.

Among the incidents related to Mr. Milne by Mrs. Pomeroy, one was stamped indelibly on his mind. It had an intimate bearing on one of the most important acts in President Lincoln's life, and Mrs. Pomeroy, relating it but a few weeks after its occurrence, made Mr. Milne feel it as keenly as though he himself had figured in it. President Lincoln, filled with gratitude for the help Mrs. Pomeroy had given during his son's illness, often went to the hospital after the boy's death and took Mrs. Pomeroy for a drive through the streets of the capital. One afternoon while they were taking one of these drives, sadly discussing the overwhelm-



ing problems that faced the nation the while, Mrs. Pomeroy half unconsciously placed her hand on the President's shoulder and said: "It seems, Mr. President, that you have been raised by God to free the slaves. Why don't you do it?" Lincoln seemed to weigh the question for a moment, then he answered: "Well, Mrs. Pomeroy, if it is the will of God that I am to be the instrument in His hands by which the slaves are to be freed, He has but to make it unmistakably known to me and it shall be done, no matter what the cost." On January 1, 1863, Mr. Milne saw in Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation another answer to Mrs. Pomeroy's question. Mr. Milne resigned his position at the Capitol after six months and returned to Fall River. He was elected a member of the Fall River Common Council in the same year, 1861, and served for five years.

A daily edition of the "News" had been started in 1859. Ten years later the paper had outgrown its printing office, and land was purchased at the corner of Pleasant and Second streets and the present News building erected. On August 2, 1869, the first issue was printed in the new quarters. The paper was of four pages, three of which were given over to advertising. A steady growth and improvement have gone on since. The old hand-set methods gave way almost entirely to linotype machines; the old flat-bed presses were abandoned in favor of the modern machines which print from stereotyped plates; and the pages and size of the page were steadily increased until the present twelve-page, eight-column paper is produced, four and a third times as large, with three editions daily.

Mr. Milne was urged in 1884 to become a candidate for the Legislature and, although he declined to make any effort toward his own election, friends who felt that in him Fall River would have a strong representative at Boston worked in his behalf, and had him elected. He served for the five years following. As a member of the Committee on Banking and Charitable Institutions, he forwarded many projects of interest and help not only to his own constituents in Fall River but to the people of the whole State. A bill which he introduced and advanced through the successive stages to its enactment as a law was declared by one of his colleagues to be "the most important thing done by the committee on banking for five years." Mr. Milne's measure was intended to increase the stability of savings banks in Massachusetts, a purpose which it admirably achieved, if the unanimous endorsement of savings bank treasurers throughout the State can be taken as a criterion. The law amended the savings bank regulations by making the division of surplus in extra dividends discretionary with the trustees instead of compulsory. An immediate effect of the change was an increase in the bank's stability. A guarantee fund provided for in connection with the new regulation formed a last reserve which assured the depositors their money in case of trouble.

Mr. Milne's ability to write bright lines of verse in a humorous vein was exemplified at the end of

his first year in the Legislature. Near the close of the session, on June 2, 1884, during an afternoon given over to mock activities, Mr. Milne read a review of the year in verse. The review was enthusiastically received, its keen summaries of the important happenings and contests of the House, and the evidence of a deep understanding of both its characters and incidents, receiving more than passing notice. During a recess of the House later, Mr. Brackett of Boston was called to the chair, and Mr. Dresser of Boston, after a few introductory remarks, offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted: "Resolved. That our hearty thanks are due and are hereby tendered to our esteemed fellow-member, Mr. John C. Milne, of Fall River, for his most entertaining and felicitous poem, read before us on June 2, and that we ask a copy of the same for publication." Among those who heard the reading was one of the State printers. He enjoyed the lines as much as any of the members and printed the review for the legislators without cost.

One of the most bitterly fought measures of the session was that which sought to divide the town of Sandwich and create the new town of Bourne. The review speaks of the bill as follows:

There's Kimball, who among the famous things he's known  
to do,  
Brings in a bill dividing our big Sandwich right in two;  
The present shape of that old town makes half the people  
mourn,  
Who ask another may be made, and called the "town of  
Bourne."

After telling of the battle which waged between the proponents and opponents of the measure, Mr. Milne described its disposition in these words:

Then Murphy to the rescue comes, like bravest of her sons,  
And Boardman mingles in the fight with all his heavy guns;  
But all in vain, the good old town of half her size is shorn,  
And while she mourns the "taking off," henceforth it must  
be "Bourne."

At the first meeting of the new town these lines were read into the minutes.

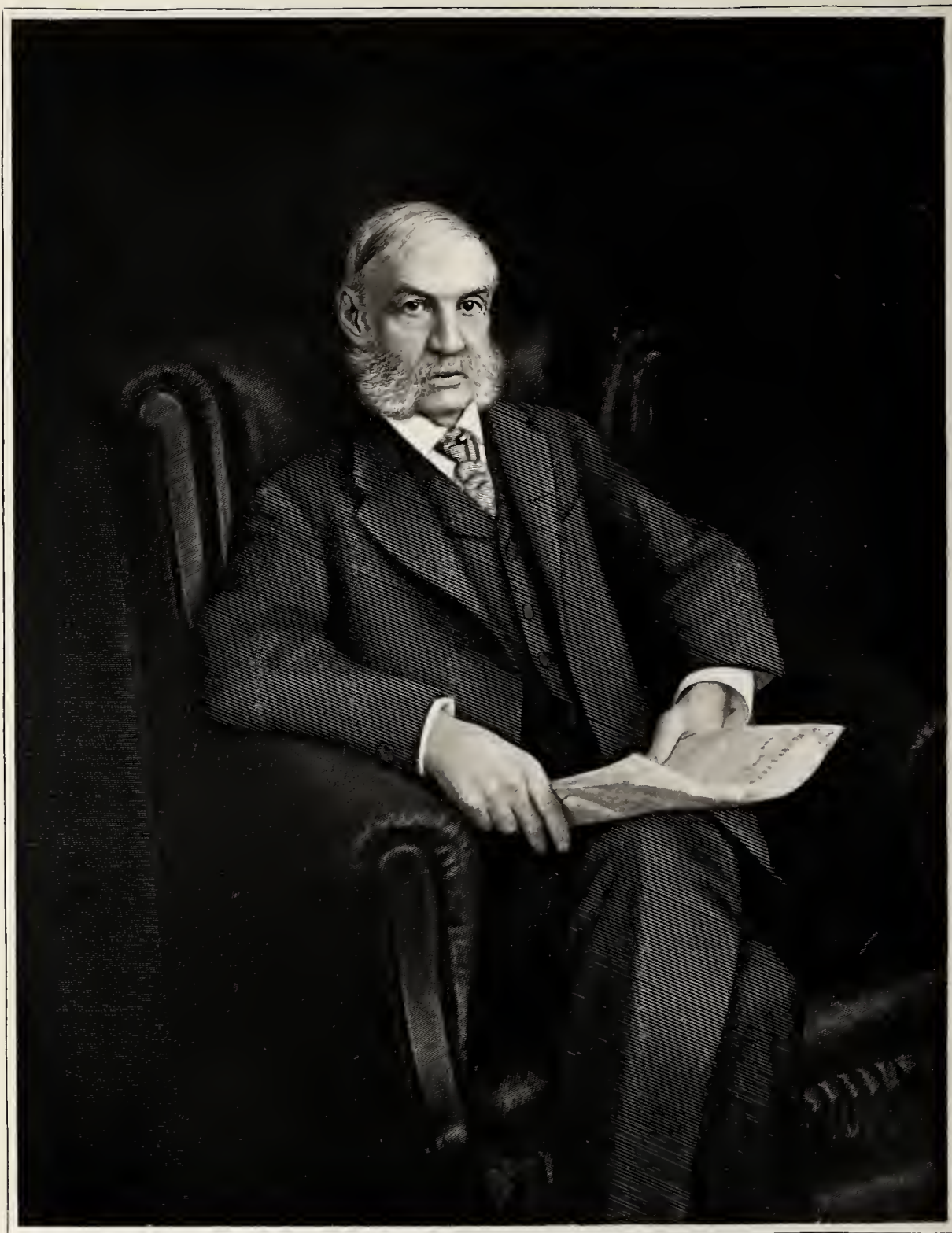
Anti-vaccination, a matter that is being given the earnest consideration of the State's legislators today, was an agitated question in 1884, also, and as in the present instance it was a Fall River man who introduced the bill. Mr. Milne's review in telling of its defeat said:

There's Dr. Stow, who represents our famous Border City,  
Sits with the other members of the public health committee,  
Then comes again into this House and startles all the nation  
With thundering philippics against "that humbug—vaccination,"  
While all around sit calm and smile—their minds and nerves  
unshaken,—  
His logic fails to "vaccinate"—his matter has not "taken."

As a member of the Committee on Charitable Institutions Mr. Milne turned his talent for writing to a helpful and inspiring purpose. Each year, with other members of the committee, he made regular visits to the institutions throughout the Commonwealth. The children in the State Primary School at Monson won his especial interest. On his second visit there, on May 18, 1885, and







Engraved by Compton Brothers New York

M.C. Borden



on his third visit, on May 26, 1835, he addressed the pupils, in verse, with cheering, inspiring words. By vote of the committee these two addresses were printed and presented to the school for the inspiration and guidance of the scholars.

Among a number of important works of interest to Fall River accomplished by Mr. Milne while in the Legislature were the securing of the free use of the water of the North Watuppa pond by the city, and a grant of \$100,000 for the erection of the Superior Court House on North Main street.

Almost as remarkable as his record in the newspaper field is that of Mr. Milne's connection with the local banking business. When the Pocasset National Bank was organized in Tiverton, in May, 1854, he was one of its first board of directors. He continued in that position for forty-nine years, or until the time that the bank lost its identity in a merger with the Massasoit and National Union banks, forming the present Massasoit-Pocasset Bank. Mr. Milne lived to see the other members of two boards of directors pass away, as well as the two treasurers and two cashiers. The Pocasset started at the corner of South Main and Rodman streets, then a part of Tiverton, with Oliver Chace as its president, and Samuel Hathaway, Weaver Osborn, John C. Milne, and William H. Taylor of Fall River, and Moses Baker and Gideon H. Durfes of Tiverton, as directors. Mr. Milne was the youngest director. As one after another of the members passed away, each was replaced by a new man, until Mr. Milne found himself with an entirely new board. More remarkable, still, he lived to see each of these six members of the second board pass away. William Henry Brackett, the first cashier, was succeeded by Edward E. Hathaway, who died May 11, 1911. Mr. Hathaway was a boy when the Pocasset Bank was started. He was succeeded as cashier by William F. Winter, who survived Mr. Milne only four months, his death occurring February 10, 1919. Mr. Milne was serving with the third complete set of directors, when, in 1903, the governor of the Commonwealth insisted upon the separation of State and National banks. The Pocasset was occupying rooms with a State bank and went out of existence. Mr. Milne was one of the Pocasset directors carried over to the Massasoit-Pocasset, of which institution he was a director. During its forty-nine years' existence Mr. Milne repeatedly declined the presidency of the Pocasset. Since June 9, 1862, Mr. Milne had been a trustee of the Citizens' Savings Bank, and since June 10, 1884, he had been the president of that institution. He had been a member of the board of investment, also, for forty-one years.

In 1871 Mr. Milne purchased the land at the corner of Bedford and Main streets for a new location for the News office. The price paid was \$15,000. He had hardly completed the transaction when Samuel Hathaway, president of the Pocasset Bank, asked him to sell the land to the bank at the price he had paid for it. Although he could easily have turned a handsome profit on the sale of the land to other parties, Mr. Milne turned it over to

the bank. As a director of the institution, sworn to look out for its best interests always, he felt that he could not refuse the bank's request.

Mr. Milne was one of the original board of directors of the Osborn Mills. He became president of that corporation upon the death of James M. Osborn, in May, 1898. He was also a director of the Slade Mills from the time of incorporation in 1871 until 1898, when, under new control and management, the name was changed to the Ancona Company. He was a director of the Stafford Mills since 1898.

From his earliest life Mr. Milne had been deeply interested in religious work. He was the first clerk of the Second Baptist Church, being elected June 18, 1846, and serving for many years. He was for a long time the superintendent of the Sunday school of this church also. Mr. Milne was one of those who proposed the construction of stores on the South Main street front of the Baptist Temple, a plan which has brought the church substantial revenue each year since it was put into effect. For the past thirty-two years Mr. Milne had attended the Central Congregational Church. He was one of the promoters of the Fall River Hospital, the predecessor of the Union Hospital.

John C. Milne died October 10, 1918. Mrs. Abby Ann (Gifford) Milne died July 21, 1916, their married life covering a period of sixty-seven years.

Five years after the "Weekly News" was founded, on June 28, 1849, John C. Milne married Abby Ann Gifford, daughter of George W. and Betsy (Howland) Gifford. Mr. and Mrs. Milne were the parents of nine children, four of whom died in early life. The survivors are: 1. Mary J., who married Henry S. Fenner, and has four children: Henry M., Joseph A.; Laura, who married Richard G. H. Knight, and has two children, Mary and Richard; and George A. 2. Joseph D., his father's associate and successor in business, who married Georgie A. Wright, and has two children: Janet, who married Roland H. Ballou, and has two sons, Richard M. and John M.; and John C. 3. Abbie G., who married Charles H. Carr, and has one daughter, Elizabeth. 4. Jeannette D., who married Edward B. Remington. 5. Hannah E., who married James A. Chadwick, and has two children, Mary and Katherine.

**MATTHEW CHALONER DURFEE BORDEN**, in 1880, took over and re-organized the business of the American Print Works, founded by his father, Colonel Richard Borden, in 1834. The new organization was incorporated as the American Printing Company of Fall River, Massachusetts, and today is one of the largest textile industries of its kind in the country and still continues to be under Borden control and management. Colonel Richard Borden was president of the American Print Works; Matthew C. D. Borden, his son, was the first president of the American Printing Company, and now, Bertram Harold Borden, his son, is president of that company, and head of M. C. D. Borden & Sons, Inc., located at No. 90 Worth street, New York City. This is a remarkable rec-



ord of family control of a great industry which includes another son of Matthew C. D. Borden, Howard Seymour Borden, vice-president and treasurer of the company.

This fine old family traces its ancestry in New England to Richard Borden, who came from England to Portsmouth, Rhode Island, 1637-8, with his wife Joan. Richard Borden was of the ninth recorded generation of the Borden family of England, a family name which came in with William the Conqueror in 1066, and is found on the Roll of Battle Abbey as Bordoun. In early English records the name is found under thirty-two different spellings, varying from Bourdon to Borden. The name was conspicuous in France as well as in England, where the line begins with Blundel at Burdoun, from whom came the name Burdon, so numerous found in England and Scotland. In the United States the name is spelled in different ways, but in this branch, beginning with Richard, the name has always been Borden. Richard, the ancestor, was of the Kent family, which is definitely traced to Henry Borden, of the parish of Hedcorn, Kent, England, born during the decade 1370-80. In the eighth generation in direct line from Henry came Matthew Borden, a church warden in Hedcorn, Kent, in 1598, who died in October, 1620. Two of his sons, Richard and John, came to New England.

(I) Richard Borden, of the ninth English and the first American generation, was born in Hedcorn, Kent, England, February 22, 1595-96, and died at Portsmouth, Rhode Island, May 25, 1671. He married, in Hedcorn parish church, September 28, 1625, Joan Fowle, and in 1628 they moved to the neighboring parish, Cranbrook. In 1637-38 they came to New England, locating in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, where Richard, a surveyor, acquired large tracts of land as he also did in New Jersey. He became a man of high standing and official importance in Rhode Island, his list of offices including that of deputy to the General Assembly in 1667 and 1670. His nuncupative will was admitted to probate May 31, 1671, by the Town Council of Portsmouth. Richard and Joan (Fowle) Borden were the parents of twelve children, the line of descent being through John, the fourth son, of whom further.

(II) John Borden was born in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, in September, 1640, and there died, June 4, 1716. He married, December 25, 1670, Mary Earle, born in Portsmouth, and died there in 1734, daughter of William and Mary (Walker) Earle. They were the parents of eight children, the eldest a son, Richard (2), of whom further.

(III) Richard (2) Borden was born October 25, 1671, and at the time of his death, sixty years later, was the largest landowner in his town and one of the wealthiest men. His home was on the main road, about one mile from the east shore of Mount Hope Bay, and two and one-half miles south of the City Hall at Fall River, his homestead farm containing about two hundred acres. He married, about 1692, Innocent Wardell, and they

were the parents of seven children, descent in this branch being traced through Thomas, the second son, of whom further.

(IV) Thomas Borden was born December 8, 1697, died at Tiverton, Rhode Island, in April, 1740. He owned that part of the south side of Fall River stream that lay south of the Great Falls and the adjoining land down to salt water, besides other farms and outside lands. He married, August 14, 1721, Mary Gifford, born October 6, 1695, daughter of Christopher and Meribah Gifford. They were the parents of five children, the eldest a son, Richard (3), of whom further.

(V) Richard (3) Borden was born in 1722, died July 4, 1795. He inherited from his father an estate which had been owned by his grandfather and foresaw the future development of the water power of Fall River. During the Revolutionary War, British troops burned his saw mill, together with a great deal of manufactured lumber, owned by his sons, who were operating the mill, Mr. Borden being carried away a prisoner by the raiders, who also burned his home. He married, March 12, 1747, Hope Cook, and they were the parents of six children, the second-born, a son, Thomas (2), of whom further.

(VI) Thomas (2) Borden was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, October 26, 1749, and there spent his life, becoming a man of wealth and importance, dying May 30, 1831. He married Mary Hathaway, born November 21, 1757, died February 18, 1824. They were the parents of thirteen children, all born at Fall River, the ninth a son, Colonel Richard, of whom further.

(VII) Colonel Richard Borden was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, April 12, 1795, and died in the city of his birth, after a long and useful life, February 25, 1874. He was educated in Fall River schools, and spent his early life at the home farm. From 1812 until 1820 he operated a grist mill at the fall nearest the river's mouth, and also engaged in ship-building in association with Major Bradford Durfee. He enlisted as a private in the second war with Great Britain, 1812-14, advancing through the ranks of ensign, lieutenant, captain, lieutenant-colonel, to the grade of colonel. After the war was over he engaged in shipbuilding, working upon the woodwork of a craft during the day, then, with his partner, going to a neighboring blacksmith shop and working on the iron work of the vessel. In this way he managed to launch one coasting vessel each year, these being from twenty to seventy-five tons burden. This blacksmith shop was the beginning of the later extensive Fall River Iron Works, which became one of the most important industries of Fall River. Borden & Durfee later, with others, incorporated as the Fall River Iron Works Company, with an original capital of \$24,000, which was reduced soon afterward to \$15,000, but was later increased until in 1845 the capital was nearly \$1,000,000. This company was the first makers of iron wire for the manufacture of wood screws in this country. For over fifty years, from the organization of the company until his death,



Colonel Richard Borden was treasurer of the Fall River Iron Works Company, and to his energy and industry the great development of the business was largely due.

It was through Colonel Borden's influence that the Old Colony railroad was induced to extend its line in the direction of Fall River and Narragansett Bay, he, with his brother, Jefferson, establishing the Fall River Steamboat Company in 1847, with a capital of \$3,000 to operate in connection with the railroad. Colonel Borden was interested in many other important Fall River enterprises, including the American Print Works, organized in 1834; the American Linen Company; the Troy Cotton and Woolen Manufactory, and the Richard Borden Manufacturing Company. He was also a director of the Annawan Manufactory, and the Metacomet Mill; president and director of the Fall River National Bank; director, agent and corporation clerk of the Fall River Iron Works Company; president of the Watuppa Reservoir Company; agent of the Fall River Furnace Company; director of the Fall River Gas Company, these all being Fall River corporations. He held high official position with corporations outside the city, being president of the Bay State Steamboat Company; the Providence Tool Company; the Cape Cod Railroad Company; and the Borden Mining Company, and was a director of the Old Colony Railroad Company. He was assessor; representative; State Senator, and, in 1864, presidential elector on the Republican ticket. The soldier's monument, erected at the entrance to Oak Grove Cemetery, was his gift to the city.

Colonel Borden married, February 21, 1828, Abby Walker Durfee, born March 22, 1798, in Pawtucket, died November 14, 1884, at the Borden Fall River home, surviving her husband more than a decade of years. She was a daughter of James and Sally (Walker) Durfee; granddaughter of Thomas and Patience (Borden) Durfee; great-granddaughter of Benjamin and Prudence (Earle) Durfee; great-great-granddaughter of Thomas Durfee, born in England in 1643, who came to Portsmouth, Rhode Island, in 1660, and there died, in 1712, Benjamin Durfee being the youngest son of his first wife, to whom he was married as early as 1664. This was a Tiverton, Rhode Island, family during the first four American generations, then, in 1803, this branch was transplanted to Fall River, Massachusetts.

Colonel Richard and Abby Walker (Durfee) Borden were the parents of seven children: 1. Caroline, born September 20, 1829, a resident of Boston, died March 19, 1922. 2. Colonel Thomas James, born March 1, 1832, at Fall River, and there died, November 21, 1902, a prominent business man and eminent citizen, his military title derived from service in the Massachusetts National Guard. He married Mary Elizabeth Hill, and they were the parents of four children. 3. Richard Baxter, born at Fall River, Massachusetts, February 21, 1834, and there died, October 12, 1906. He was a textile manufacturer whose term of active service extended over a longer period than that of any man in Bris-

tol county, and a man of stainless integrity and admirable citizenship. He married Ellen F. Plumer, and left three children. 4. Edward Payson, born February 12, 1836, became a resident of Philadelphia, and died December 15, 1916. He married Margaret Lindsey Durfee, and left one son, Edward Shirley Borden. 5. Captain William Henry Harrison, born September 13, 1840, died in Menada, France. He married, September 25, 1867, Fannie Ingram Bosworth, of Augusta, Maine. 6. Matthew Chaloner Durfee, of further mention. 7. Sarah Walker, born May 13, 1844; married, May 19, 1869, Alphonso S. Covell.

(VIII) Matthew Chaloner Durfee Borden, fifth son of Colonel Richard and Abby Walker (Durfee) Borden, was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, July 18, 1842, and died at his summer home in Rumson, Monmouth county, New Jersey, May 27, 1912. He attended Fall River public schools and a school at Auburndale, Massachusetts, prepared for college at Phillips-Andover Academy, and was graduated from Yale University, class of 1864. In 1865 he began his marvelous business career, his first position being as a clerk with Lathrop, Ludington & Company, dry goods jobbers of New York City. He soon left that house for Low, Harriman & Company, a commission firm, acting as selling agents for the American Print Works, of Fall River, of which Colonel Richard Borden was president. The print works from its small beginning in 1834 had grown to be a large corporation, but two disastrous fires during the winter of 1867 caused the works to become involved in financial difficulties, and finally, in 1879, to make an assignment. In 1880 Matthew C. D. Borden re-organized the business, which was then incorporated as the American Printing Company, with a capital of \$300,000. Its history since has been one of rapid and substantial growth, and under the efficient Borden management stands today the largest business of its kind in the United States. Matthew C. D. Borden, in 1887, purchased the interest of his brother, Colonel Thomas James Borden, and became practically the sole owner of the business. In 1889 he bought the property of the Fall River Iron Works Company and erected the first of that corporation's large mills, adding a second mill in 1892, and a third in 1893. Business men freely predicted Mr. Borden's early downfall, and the depressed condition of the textile industry at that time was most discouraging, but when other manufacturers were discussing reduced time and lower wages Mr. Borden startled them by announcing an advance of ten per cent in the wages of all employees. This advance he followed two weeks later by beginning the erection of a fourth mill, which was to be the largest print cloth mill in America.

Mr. Borden's boldness staggered the trade, but his judgment and foresight, his courage and determination, won success, and in due time other manufacturers fell in line and acknowledged him as their leader. When in 1899 the industry suffered another period of depression, Mr. Borden again raised the wages of his employees ten per cent, and in time



others followed his lead. Mr. Borden's courage in the face of financial danger and his resourcefulness in time of business crisis were most remarkable. Another instance of these characteristics was in 1901, when the Fall River textile market was greatly overstocked and prices very low and falling. In this critical period Mr. Borden purchased nearly a million dollars worth of cotton cloth, taking all that was offered. This strengthened the market, and prices advanced, and the movement resulted in a good profit for Mr. Borden personally, and also in a good profit for the entire textile trade.

In 1902 the American Printing Company acquired the property of the Fall River Machine Company and a large storehouse. The company's fifth mill was built in that year, and later, when a sixth and a seventh mill was added, the cloth mills of the American Printing Company were by far the largest in the United States. In 1912 the company's plant covered an area of twenty-eight acres; it had in operation twenty-nine printing machines, the weekly output being about 135,000 pieces. In the same year the Fall River Iron Works Company operated 485,000 spindles and 13,000 looms, producing weekly 80,000 pieces, or 205,000,000 yards of print cloth annually, requiring, to produce, over 50,000 bales of cotton. This marvelous development was due to the energy, enterprise and vision of Matthew C. D. Borden.

In 1910 the firm M. C. D. Borden & Sons took over the selling agency of the American Printing Company, and is still acting in that capacity, though the wise and efficient head which built up the business has been laid at rest. No man in the industry ever accomplished so much in maintaining a steady and safe market. On many occasions he placed in storage large quantities of goods which, if launched on the market, would have greatly depressed it, and on several occasions he took over the surplus stock of other manufacturers in order to maintain the market. No one other man ever accomplished so much as he in bettering the conditions of the mill operatives of Fall River, for his action in raising the wages of his own employees forced others to do the same, and his frequent bolstering of the industry in times of depression averted lock-outs, strikes and other occasions making idle labor. His boldness and prompt action always redounded to his own benefit, and he never made any pretensions as a public benefactor, though everyone connected with the cotton manufacturing industry shared in his advantages. There is no doubt that he was inspired in all of these dealings with a strong sense of responsibility toward the thousands who derived their living from the industry. Mr. Borden entertained high ideals of a man's duty to his fellow-men and carried them out with unostentatious and unpretending sincerity. At one time he said: "I believe in success, and the greater the better. I believe in the accumulation of wealth, without any limit, except, always, that fixed by clean and honorable methods, but I believe, also, that unusual success brings with it inseparably extraordinary responsibility."

Though Mr. Borden exhibited in marked degree the business qualifications inherited from worthy sires, he possessed a strong and very distinct individuality. His mind was open and his attitude was never intolerant, but he made his own decisions, and never wavered in their execution. He considered great chances as a matter of course in handling great affairs, and faced his responsibilities without flinching. With confidence in his own judgment, he took steps which, in the opinion of all his associates, seemed certain to result in disaster, and the result invariably justified his action. Altogether he was one of the most remarkable of the long list of remarkable business men who have made this country great. While he was familiar with all details, he had a very great grasp of mind and a keen foresight. Like all broad-minded men, he was charitable in the widest sense, most of his benefactions were kept under cover. This could not be accomplished in some cases, such as a gift of \$100,000 to the charities of Fall River, on the occasion of starting Mill No. 4, October 17, 1895. This gift was made, as he expressed it, "in grateful recognition of a kind Providence that has so favored me." Of this gift \$15,000 went to the building fund of the Home for Aged People, smaller sums to other institutions, and the bulk for the erection of a home for the Boys' Club, a magnificent building, with accommodations for 2,000 members, containing a theatre, gymnasium, swimming pool, library and bowling alleys. This is used exclusively by street boys for social and educational purposes, and is by far the finest institution of its kind in the United States. In 1906 Mr. Borden made extensive additions to this building for the use of men. Though a very busy man, caring for enormous interests, he still found time for recreation, and had many interests in life. Fond of outdoor sports, he was an enthusiastic yachtsman and horse owner. His famous steam yacht, the "Sovereign," is now owned by the United States Government, under the name of the "Scorpion." Mr. Borden's home was for many years in New York, and he was associated with many sporting clubs of that section, including the Seawanhaka Yacht Club, South Side Sportsmen's Club, New York Yacht Club, New York Athletic Club, Larchmont Yacht, and Jekyll Island Clubs. He was also interested in literature and art, and possessed a library and art gallery surpassed in value and excellence by very few in this country. More than a million dollars worth of paintings were hung in his gallery, and his library contained many volumes of unusual interest. A friend of education, he was a ready contributor to its advancement, and among his beneficiaries was his *alma mater*—Yale, which received from him a quarter of a million dollars. For six years he was park commissioner of New York City. He was interested in many of its business concerns: a director of the Lincoln National, Astor Place, and Manhattan Company banks, New York Security and Trust Company, and the Lincoln Safe Deposit Company. He was also a member of many social organizations of the city, including the following clubs:







Lewis Historical Pub Co.

Eng by E. C. Williams & Bro NY

*William H. Bordew.*



Union League, Republican, Metropolitan, Players,' Merchants,' Down Town, Yale Alumni, Riding, Rumson Country and other clubs. He was a member of the New England Society, Metropolitan Museum of Art, American Museum of Natural History, and a trustee of the Young Men's Christian Association.

Mr. Borden married, September 5, 1865, Harriet M. Durfee, daughter of Dr. Nathan and Delena (Borden) Durfee. Two of the seven children of this marriage survive: Bertram Harold, a sketch of whom follows; and Howard Seymour, a sketch of whom will be found on following pages.

Harriet M. (Durfee) Borden was of the sixth American generation of the family founded in New England by Thomas Durfee, who was also the ancestor of Abby Walker (Durfee) Borden, wife of Colonel Richard Borden. Her father, Dr. Nathan Durfee, was a graduate of Brown University, class of 1824, and of the Medical Department of Harvard University, class of 1831. He married (first) at Fall River, Delena Borden, daughter of George and Phoebe (Borden) Borden.

**BERTRAM HAROLD BORDEN**, son of Matthew C. D. and Harriet M. (Durfee) Borden (see preceding sketch), was born in New York City, October 3, 1868. He was educated in private New York City schools, and at the age of twenty entered business life in the dry goods commission firm of Bliss, Fabyan & Company, where he was intimately associated with his father. In the fall of 1895 he was elected treasurer of the American Printing Company, of which his father was president. On July 1, 1910, the firm of M. C. D. Borden & Sons was established at No. 90 Worth street, New York, Bertram H. Borden becoming a partner. In 1912, upon the death of Matthew C. D. Borden, Bertram H. Borden succeeded his father as senior partner of the M. C. D. Borden & Sons, and in the presidency of the American Printing Company and the Fall River Iron Works Company. On January 1, 1918, the cloth mills of the Fall River Iron Works Company became a part of the American Printing Company. In 1923 the firm of M. C. D. Borden & Sons was incorporated under that name and Bertram H. Borden became the president.

In 1918 Mr. Borden organized the Association of Cotton Textile Merchants, of New York, and was its first president. He is a director of The Bank of Manhattan Company; Claffin's Inc.; The Merchants' Association of New York City; the Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance Company, Ltd.; the Globe Indemnity Company; the Prudential Life Insurance Company; the Star Insurance Company; and a trustee of the Union Square Savings Bank of New York. These responsibilities he carries with ability and zeal, devoting himself closely to his business interests. He is one of the strong men of the textile trade and a fitting executive for that industry's active corporation.

Mr. Borden, a native son of New York City, has taken a deep interest in many departments of city life. When a young man he served in the National

Guard, and was on duty during the Brooklyn strikes of 1893. He is on the board of managers of St. Mark's Hospital; is a member of the board of trustees of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, and of the Grant Monument Association. He is a member of the New England Society of the City of New York; the Union League, Racquet and Tennis, Union, Merchants' (president), New York Yacht and Atlantic Yacht clubs; the Quequechan and Country clubs, of Fall River; and the Rumson Country Club, of Rumson, New Jersey. Mr. Borden is a keen sportsman, and all his life has enjoyed riding, yachting and country club sports. His home is at Rumson, New Jersey. He is greatly interested in the Borough of Rumson and is active in its civic interests. He is a man of quiet, dignified, fine personality, highly esteemed by his contemporaries of the business world, and popular socially.

Mr. Borden married, in New York City, January 23, 1896, Mary Lavinia Owen, daughter of William H. and Mary Lavinia (Brooks) Owen, of New York City. In winter he resides at No. 48 East Sixty-eighth street, New York City.

**GENERAL HOWARD SEYMOUR BORDEN**, son of Matthew C. D. and Harriet M. (Durfee) Borden, was born in New York City, April 27, 1876. He prepared in private schools, then entered Yale University, whence he was graduated A. B., class of '98. The same year he became associated with his father in the American Printing Company, and in 1910, when the firm of M. C. D. Borden & Sons was founded, was admitted to that firm as a partner. Upon the death of Matthew C. D. Borden in 1912, his large business interests devolved upon the sons who had been trained by their father for that responsibility, Bertram H. Borden becoming president of both the American Printing Company and the Fall River Iron Works Company, and Howard S. Borden being chosen as vice-president and treasurer of the first-named company and treasurer of the last-named. These positions of responsibility are ably filled by the incumbents, and the name of Borden, so long and honorably known in the textile world, never was more prominent than today. Howard S. Borden, in addition to the offices named, is a director of the Lawyers' Mortgage Company, and of the Lincoln Safe Deposit Company, of New York.

On the outbreak of the war now known as the "World War," 1914-18, General Borden, in common with all men of large business interests, saw the need of active coöperation with the government, and on the declaration of war between the United States and Germany he took immediate steps to support his country in every way possible. He was appointed chairman, by the President, of the Local Exemption Board at Red Bank, New Jersey. Through his efforts two companies of Coast Artillery were enlisted, and on August 17, 1917, Howard S. Borden was commissioned captain of the First Machine Gun Company of the New Jersey National Guard. On October 4, 1917, he was commissioned major of the Third Battalion of the Guard, and later



he was aide-de-camp by detail on the staff of Governor Edge, of New Jersey, with headquarters at Red Bank, New Jersey. He was commissioned colonel of the Second Regiment, Field Artillery, of the National Guard, August 19, 1918, to October, 1918, then served on the governor's staff; and from November 12, 1919, until December 21, 1920, was colonel of the 6th Regiment of the New Jersey National Guard, and from December 21, 1920, until February 4, 1922, was commander of the 57th Brigade, ranking as brigadier-general. On July 13, 1921, he was commissioned brigadier-general of the Officers' Reserve Corps of the United States Army, and shortly after assigned to command the 212th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, with headquarters in the Army building, at No. 39 Whitehall street, New York.

General Borden is a rare sportsman, interested in all out-of-door recreations, particularly polo, yachting and aviation. "Old Oaks" stock farm is one of his keen delights and there he breeds the best strains of polo ponies; Dalmatian dogs; Irish setters, the "Old Oaks" kennels being famous. He was, for some years, master of the Monmouth county hounds, and is greatly interested in photography, amateur theatricals, hunting and music. In fact, his range of interests reveal a man of extremely versatile tastes, a list of his clubs showing how broad are his recreation pleasures and tastes. He is a member of the New York, Atlantic and Columbia Yacht clubs; Aero Club of America; Rumson Hunting and Steeplechase Association; the Amateur Comedy Club; Motor Boat Club of America; Sea Bright Tennis Club; Sea Bright Beach Club; Mendelssohn Glee Club; Yale Club; Union League Club; Merchants' Club; Army and Navy Club of New York; founder and chairman of the finance committee; Rumson Country Club, of Rumson, New Jersey, of which he was a founder; Delta Kappa Epsilon Club; University Club; Graduate Club, of New Haven; Society of American Officers; and the Quequechan Club, of Fall River. His church connection is with St. George's Parish (Protestant Episcopal), Rumson, New Jersey.

In Orange, New Jersey, February 1, 1900, Howard S. Borden married Edith C. Curtis, born September 9, 1876, daughter of George Curtis, of Hartford, Connecticut, and Ellen (Bradley) Curtis. General and Mrs. Borden have had five children: 1. John Chaloner, born October 26, 1900, Yale A. B., 1923, now associated with M. C. D. Borden & Sons, Inc., New York City. 2. Jeanette, born January 17, 1903, died January 14, 1906. 3. Arthur Bradley, born November 4, 1906, a student at Hotchkiss School, Lakeville, Connecticut. 4. Doris, born May 21, 1909. 5. William Howard, born October 22, 1915. The family home is "Old Oaks," Rumson, New Jersey; the New York home at No. 280 Park avenue.

**JEFFERSON (3) BORDEN**—For three generations the name of Jefferson Borden has been one of large significance to the textile industry in Fall River, Massachusetts, and the present head of the family, Jefferson (3) Borden, is one of the widely

prominent business executives of Bristol county at the present time. His lifelong interest in the textile advance of Fall River has won his way to a largely responsible position as vice-president, in charge of manufacture, of the Fall River Bleachery. Mr. Borden is broadly interested in all community advance in civic affairs, fraternal interests, and all that pertains to the welfare of the people.

Jefferson (1) Borden was an early pioneer of the textile industry in Fall River, a man of broad vision and great natural ability, and from the beginnings which he instituted great industries have been developed. He was for a number of years treasurer of the American Printing Company, and held a large responsibility over various subsidiary concerns of that great corporation. He was a man of wide influence in public affairs, both locally and in this section of the State, and his name is one of the honored ones in the annals of Fall River. He married Susan Elizabeth Easton, also a member of an old and influential Bristol county family. Of their children, Colonel Spencer Borden and Jefferson (2) Borden became leading textile executives of this city.

Jefferson (2) Borden was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, June 2, 1844, and died August 20, 1918. His education was begun in the local public schools and he later entered Brown University, at Providence, Rhode Island, from which he was graduated in the class of 1866. He took a special course in chemistry in its relation to the textile industry, and upon the completion of his education he entered the employ of the American Printing Company, of which his father was at that time treasurer. He later became agent of the Mt. Hope Mill, now known as the Conanicut Mill, which was then controlled by the American Printing Company. After a time he became associated with the Aquidneck Mills, of Providence, Rhode Island, in the capacity of superintendent, forming this connection at a time when electricity was first being introduced into the textile industry in a tentative way. Mr. Borden was principally responsible for the adoption of this motive power in the textile plants of Providence and Fall River through his influence as an executive in the industry, bringing about a thorough trial of electrical equipment in the mills with which he was connected. Later, Mr. Borden became active as a broker in yachts, as an executive of the Yacht Brokerage and Designing Company, of Boston, Massachusetts. He won international fame in this field, having been the first to design the composition board of wood and metal, which was named "composite," used in the manufacture of yachts. He was the designer of the "R. D.," but probably the best known racing craft which he designed was the "Varda." The "Maybelle Swift," which was especially constructed for the owner, Charles W. Anthony, of Fall River, Massachusetts, was also his work. Power boats and sailing vessels in large numbers were built from his plans and he was considered one of the influential forces of the day in this field of sport. Still retaining his interest, however, in the textile industry, Mr. Bor-





Lewis Historical Photo Co.

Eng by E. G. Williams, S. Hro. N.Y.

Howard S. Borden.





den eventually entered the mill supply business in partnership with his son, John Westall Borden, founding the present important firm of Jefferson Borden & Son. He remained at the head of this concern until about four years prior to his decease, when his broken health compelled him to retire, and John Westall Borden took over the interest. Mr. Borden's many other affiliations included the Fall River Bleachery of which Jefferson (3) Borden is vice-president at the present time. The civic advance always commanded the influence and aid of Jefferson (2) Borden, and he was particularly active in the fire department, having served as captain of the first chemical engine in this district, also as district engineer. He was a well-remembered figure of the yacht clubs of Boston, New Bedford, and Fall River.

Jefferson (2) Borden married, on February 4, 1869, Ellen Westall, daughter of Rev. John Westall, of Fall River. Mrs. Borden died about 1914, leaving three children: Jefferson (3), of further mention; John Westall, a sketch of whom follows; and Elizabeth E., wife of Walter I. Nichols.

Jefferson (3) Borden, son of Jefferson (2) and Ellen (Westall) Borden, was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, November 16, 1869. His education was begun in the local public schools, and he was graduated from the B. M. C. Durfee High School with the class of 1888. A week after graduation he became associated with his uncle in the Fall River Bleachery, remaining a part of the organization for about one year, during which time he was active in the office of the establishment. He then went into the manufacturing departments of the concern, and learned every branch of its activities by experience. Three years after entering the plant, Mr. Borden was made its superintendent and continued in that capacity until his election to the office of vice-president, in charge of the manufacturing, which took place November 17, 1921. He is a member of the Church of the New Jerusalem.

**JOHN WESTALL BORDEN**—A leading industrial executive of Bristol county, Massachusetts, and, indeed, a leader in his special field in this part of the country, John Westall Borden has been engaged in the mill supply business for many years, and is now the sole proprietor of the enterprise long known under the title of Jefferson Borden & Son. Mr. Borden has largely achieved his own success, uniting forces with his father only after he had attained a noteworthy position in his own responsibility. The resulting enterprise gives to Fall River the distinction of being a center of mill supply activities, particularly in the field of transmission, in which this concern specializes.

John Westall (J. Westall) Borden, son of Jefferson (2) and Ellen (Westall) Borden (q. v.), was born in Fall River, Massachusetts, September 28, 1872. His education was begun in the local public schools, and he is a graduate of the B. M. C. Durfee High School, class of 1890. His early business experience was as a member of the office force of the Mechanics Mill, where he was active

for some six years. During this period Mr. Borden handled various individual interests on the outside, and at the expiration of the time mentioned he determined to resign in order to develop this business which he had already built up to a considerable importance. Accordingly, he severed his connection with the Mechanics Mill and founded an interest under his own name. His father, Jefferson (2) Borden, was deeply interested in his activities, and with long experience in textile affairs and wide influence among textile executives, his name was considered to be of distinctive significance and of special value in connection with any enterprise of this kind. Thus, father and son became affiliated in the enterprise and the title became Jefferson Borden & Son. The influence of the older man on the progress of the business was definite and permanent, although for only a comparatively few years was he active in it. John Westall Borden has been the head of the organization since about 1914, and with his breadth of experience and large executive ability he has developed a business of international importance. The house has been known since it was established as a mill supply house, but their principal activity is in the line of transmission. In the distribution of power throughout the mill, Mr. Borden has developed various ideas of his own, which have been accepted as distinctively original and of the greatest value, and this concern is now the leading transmission house in Southern Massachusetts.

Mr. Borden is affiliated with various industrial organizations in this section, but his time is largely occupied by his business activities. Fraternally he is identified with Massasoit Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, and his clubs are the Rotary, Quequechan, Fall River Yacht, and Arctic. He is a member of the Church of the New Jerusalem, which he serves as treasurer.

John Westall Borden married, September 4, 1906, Jessie Stewart, daughter of David C. Stewart, for many years a leading merchant of Fall River, now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Borden are the parents of two children: John Westall, Jr., a student at the B. M. C. Durfee High School; and Eleanor S.

**SPENCER BORDEN, JR.**—As the head of the long established firm known as the Fall River Bleachery, Spencer Borden, Jr., holds a foremost position in the business world of this city and is widely affiliated with the textile industry throughout the East. A man of broadly practical ability, trained for the special field in which he has always been engaged, Mr. Borden has for nearly thirty years been a definite force for progress in his branch of the textile industry. He comes of a very old and prominent family of Bristol county, a family whose men have been identified with industrial advance in New England for many generations, and whose constructive efforts have done much for the State of Massachusetts.

Colonel Spencer Borden, Mr. Borden's father, was born in Fall River, Massachusetts, June 10, 1849, and is a son of Jefferson (1) and Susan



Elizabeth (Easton) Borden. Following his early studies, he became a student at the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, of Brooklyn, New York, from which he was graduated in the class of 1868. This course was followed by advance study at the Conservatoire des Arts et Metiers, from which he was graduated at the Sorbonne in 1870. Colonel Borden first entered the employ of the American Printing Company, and was active as a chemist in that connection until the year 1872, when he established the Fall River Bleachery. Even in its early beginnings this enterprise was one of the most important of its kind in the United States and its plant one of the largest. With Colonel Borden's extensive technical training and his deep interest in his work the development of the business was a matter of large and rapid expansion. He became affiliated with many of the older and more important textile corporations of Bristol county, and also held stock in many other branches of industrial activity. Colonel Borden was even more widely known through his interest in fine horses. From the year 1873 practically throughout his lifetime he was a breeder of horses, first Hamiltonians, later Morgans and Clays, and in 1890 he began breeding polo ponies. At this time he headed the stables with the famous and "unbeaten" Kismet, well known to the racing public in 1883 and 1884. At his beautiful estate at Interlachen, on the borders of North Watappa Lake, he continued breeding Arabians throughout his lifetime, becoming an authority on this breed. His many monographs, treating the subject of horse breeding, won the highest esteem among horsemen, and have since been considered authoritative. He was tireless in his efforts to improve the breeds in which he was interested and also to uphold the highest standards of ethics in this interest. Mr. Borden was broadly interested in all scientific advance and kept in close touch with electricity in its early development, inventing many appliances, mechanical, electrical and chemical, some in the field of textile production and others of a general nature. Politically Colonel Borden was a leader in Fall River, and from 1890 until 1893 served as a member of W. E. Russell's staff, in which connection he received his military rank. This full and well-rounded life was closed on October 17, 1921, at Woodstock, Vermont, where Colonel Borden had gone for a few days of leisure. His significance to the community of which he had been a lifelong resident was on every side revealed by the countless expressions of good will and admiration which were brought out by his decease. His is one of the names which in the annals of Fall River will always remain among the brightest.

Colonel Spencer Borden married Effie Brooks, and they were the parents of four children: Spencer, Jr., of further mention; Lenora B.; the wife of Bernard W. Trafford, of Boston; Alfred B.; and Florence, wife of William Darrach.

Spencer Borden, Jr., was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, September 8, 1872. His education was begun in the local public schools, and, later

entering Harvard University, he was graduated from that institution in the class of 1894. Interested from boyhood in the enterprise of which his father was the founder and the head, the trend of his educational preparations, as well as his youthful interest, was toward his future as a part of this organization. He became identified with the business shortly following his graduation from Harvard University, and familiarized himself with its details by the very practical method of experience in all departments. Rising from one position to another, each of greater responsibility on the merits of his attainments in the organization, Mr. Borden was received into the firm in due course, and, eventually, upon the death of his father, became president of the corporation. His energy and efficiency have for many years been vital factors in the growth and development of the enterprise, and it was as a broadly capable executive that he took over the duties of his present position. His plans for the future include definite lines of expansion and development, and the history of more than half a century which lies behind him is only an augur of the future of this great interest. Mr. Borden is affiliated with the world of finance of his native State as a director of the Shawmut National Bank of Boston and vice-president and director of the Fall River National Bank. In the public affairs of his native city, Mr. Borden takes a deep and constructive interest, but has never permitted his name to be brought forward as a candidate for elective office. He has served as a member of the School Board and the Planning Board. During the World War, he enlisted in the Massachusetts State Guard, and now holds the rank of lieutenant-colonel of the 17th Infantry Regiment. He is a member of the Quequechan Club of Fall River, the University Club of New York, the New York Yacht Club, and the Eastern Yacht Club, these latter organizations revealing his chief leisure interest. He is affiliated with the Baptist church.

Spencer Borden, Jr., married, at Lowell, Massachusetts, June 1, 1901, Sarah Hidreth Ames, daughter of General Adelbert and Blanche (Butler) Ames, and they are the parents of four children: Blanche Butler, Joan, Ames, and Richard.

**BRAYTON FAMILY**—For over two hundred years the name of Brayton has been associated with the growth of Massachusetts, yet we must turn to the annals of Rhode Island for the earlier records of this family. There we find that Francis Brayton was received as an inhabitant of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, as early as 1643, and to him the majority, if not all, of the Braytons in this country trace their origin. The names of his descendants have long been prominent in our civic, commercial, judicial, and military history, and a brief outline of that branch of the family, closely allied with growth of Bristol county, is given below.

(I) Francis Brayton, of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, and his wife Mary had six children: Francis, Mary; Stephen, of further mention; Martha, Elizabeth, and Sarah.



(II) Stephen Brayton married, March 8, 1679, Ann Tallman, daughter of Peter and Ann Tallman. Their children were: Mary; Elizabeth; Ann; Preserved, of further mention; Stephen; and Israel.

(III) Preserved Brayton, who became the founder of the family in Bristol county, Massachusetts, was born in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, March 8, 1685, and married Content Coggeshall, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Timberlake) Coggeshall. Their children were: John, Stephen, David, Baulston, Ann, Content, and Israel, the first two of whom were born in Portsmouth, Rhode Island.

In 1714, Preserved Brayton purchased of William Little, of Plymouth, Massachusetts, one hundred thirty-eight acres of land lying in the Great Neck of the Shawomet Lands; in 1724 he enlarged the farm, and these acres, having been in possession of the family through succeeding generations, have long been known as the Brayton Homestead. Today their location may be described as on the west side of Taunton river, between the two bridges, directly opposite the north section of the city of Fall River. As the first owners of the land were residents of Plymouth, we infer that Preserved Brayton, his wife, and two oldest children, were the pioneer settlers on this land, yet not the first settlers on the Great Neck, as other families had previously come over from Rhode Island, among whom was the sister of Content (Coggeshall) Brayton with her husband. Their farm purchased in 1700, was located on the east side of Lee's river, west of the Brayton Homestead, and this "Anthony Homestead" is still owned by a descendant of William and Mary (Coggeshall) Anthony. Preserved Brayton did not limit the purchase of his lands to those acquired in the Great Neck, for we learn from his will that he gave "a certain piece of land lying in Freetown" to his granddaughter Elizabeth Robinson; "a certain farm" in Rehoboth to his grandson Preserved Brayton; and "a certain piece of land" in another part of Swansea to his grandson Stephen. Thus we know that the family scattered to different parts of Bristol county, while one son inherited a large tract of land in Smithfield, Rhode Island. His daughter, Content, married Samuel Gardner, Jr., and their descendants have also been prominent in this section of Massachusetts. Swansea did not annex the Shawomet Lands until after 1724, but in later records the name of Preserved Brayton is connected with its public offices and various town affairs, and thus we have evidence that his interests extended beyond those of his family and farm to the broader life of the community. Preserved Brayton died in 1761, leaving his Homestead farm to his son Israel, of whom further.

(IV) Israel Brayton was born October 13, 1727, and was twice married; first to Mary Perry, and their children were: Israel; Preserved; Content, who married Captain Nathan Reed; David; John of whom further; Bethany, who married Dr. John Winslow; Mary, who married Philip Bowers; Perry; and Baulston, who married Mercy Slade. Thus the name of Brayton was again united with names

of other families prominent in the growth of Bristol county. Israel Brayton married (second) Mrs. Mary Read Bowers and their children were: Nancy; Perry Bowers and Nathan Read (twins), neither of whom lived to maturity.

Although Israel Brayton had a large family, he was able to extend his holdings, and purchased a large tract of land in Tiverton, which he left by will to his son Baulston, while to his son John he left the Homestead Farm.

(V) John Brayton was born in Swansea, April 12, 1762, and died in Somerset, May 12, 1829. His life covered a span of years when the community was filled with anxiety, conflict, privation, financial depression, scarcity of food, great loss of life during the war, and then the unsettled times connected with the re-organization and the forming of a new government. Too young to serve throughout the war, John Brayton enlisted, on August 2, 1780, in Captain Peleg Peck's company of Colonel Thomas Carpenter's regiment. John Brayton married, on September 21, 1782, Sarah Bowers, daughter of Philip and Mary (Read) Bowers, a descendant of three of the passengers of the first voyage of the "Mayflower." Their children were: Mary, who became the second wife of Dr. John Winslow; Sarah, who married Benjamin Clark Cornell; William Bowers, who was drowned at sea when seventeen years old; Nancy Jarrett Bowers, who became the second wife of David Anthony; Israel, of whom further; Content, who died in her seventy-fifth year, unmarried; Stephen, who married (first) Mary H. Gray, (second) Abby Gray; Almira, who married Captain Jesse Chace; Betsey; John, Jr., and Caroline, none of whom lived to maturity.

(VI) Israel Brayton was born in Somerset (which had been set apart from Swansea in 1790) on July 29, 1792, and died there November 5, 1866, although he did not pass his entire life on the Homestead Farm after his marriage to Keziah Anthony, daughter of David and Submit (Wheeler) Anthony, he lived a short time in Foxboro, and then removed to Swansea Village, where he remained several years. Subsequently, he became a resident of Fall River, but after the death of his brother Stephen, he returned to the Homestead Farm, where he spent the remaining years of his life.

The children of Israel and Keziah (Anthony) Brayton were: 1. Mary, who married (first) Branford Durfee; (second) Jeremiah S. Young. 2. William Bowers, who married Hannah T. Lawton, of Tiverton. 3. Nancy Jarrett Bowers, who married Daniel Chase, of Somerset. 4. Elizabeth Anthony, who married Roswell D. Hitchcock, a native of Maine; 5. David Anthony, a sketch of whom follows. 6. John Summerfield, a sketch of whom will be found in the following pages. 7. Israel Perry, born in Swansea, May 24, 1829. 8. Hezekiah Anthony, who married Caroline Elizabeth Slade, of Somerset.

**DAVID ANTHONY BRAYTON**—Gifted with a nature generous and benevolent, with a mind keen and quick in judgment of men, with foresight and wisdom in the handling of affairs, and a charac-



ter noted for its sterling integrity, David Anthony Brayton was a citizen of commanding power, whose fearlessness in the performance of duty won for him the confidence and esteem of all who came within the scope of his broad influence.

David Anthony Brayton was the son of Israel and Keziah (Anthony) Brayton, and was born April 2, 1824, in Swansea, Massachusetts, and died in London, England, August 20, 1881. The greater part of his childhood was passed in Somerset, on the farm that for generations had been the home of his Brayton ancestors. He acquired the rudiments of a practical education by regular attendance at the public schools of Somerset and Fall River, and when not at school he worked with great energy and zeal at various occupations. His special aptitude for business led him to find a larger field than that offered by his boyhood home, and when still a minor he made a business trip to Cuba, in later years becoming extensively engaged in trade with the West Indies. The discovery of gold in California intensely interested Mr. Brayton, and in 1849 he sailed in the ship "Mary Mitchell" for the Pacific Coast, where he remained several months. On his return to Fall River, with Silas Bullard as a partner, he erected the Bristol County Flour Mills, the first industry of the kind in this part of Massachusetts, and he subsequently became its sole proprietor.

Shortly after the enactment of the National Banking Law, David Anthony Brayton, with his brother, John S. Brayton, and their associates, established the First National Bank of Fall River, and so faithful and valuable were his services in building up this organization, that at the time of his death the directors of the corporation spread upon its records this tribute: "To his remarkable foresight, energy, and high moral character, this institution owes its origin and its great success."

Fall River had already become a centre of the cotton industry, and Mr. Brayton, realizing the great possibility of its growth, conceived the idea of erecting a large manufactory, for which, in 1865, a site was purchased, bordering on the stream that gave to Fall River its name. As a result of his foresight and business acumen, Durfee Mill No. 1 was completed in 1867; in 1871 Durfee Mill No. 2, a duplicate of No. 1, was built, thus doubling the production of the print cloths of this corporation; and in 1880 the plant was enlarged by the erection of mill No. 3. These mills were named in honor of Bradford Durfee, whose son, B. M. C. Durfee, was the largest stockholder, but they stand as an enduring monument to the enterprise, energy, and sound judgment of David Anthony Brayton. From the time of their incorporation to that of his demise he was treasurer and manager of the Durfee Mills, which for many years constituted one of the largest print cloth plants in the country.

Mr. Brayton's wide-spread knowledge and experience contributed to the success of the many enterprises in which he held offices of responsibility and trust. He was director in eight other corpora-

tions in Fall River, and at the time of his death was president and principal owner of the Arnold Print Works in North Adams, Massachusetts.

As a citizen, Mr. Brayton took an active interest in the development of Fall River, and his wise counsel and public spirit exerted a powerful influence in the community. He was a regular attendant and active member of the First Congregational Church of Fall River, giving freely to the support of divine worship, and bestowing many private benevolences unostentatiously and discriminatingly.

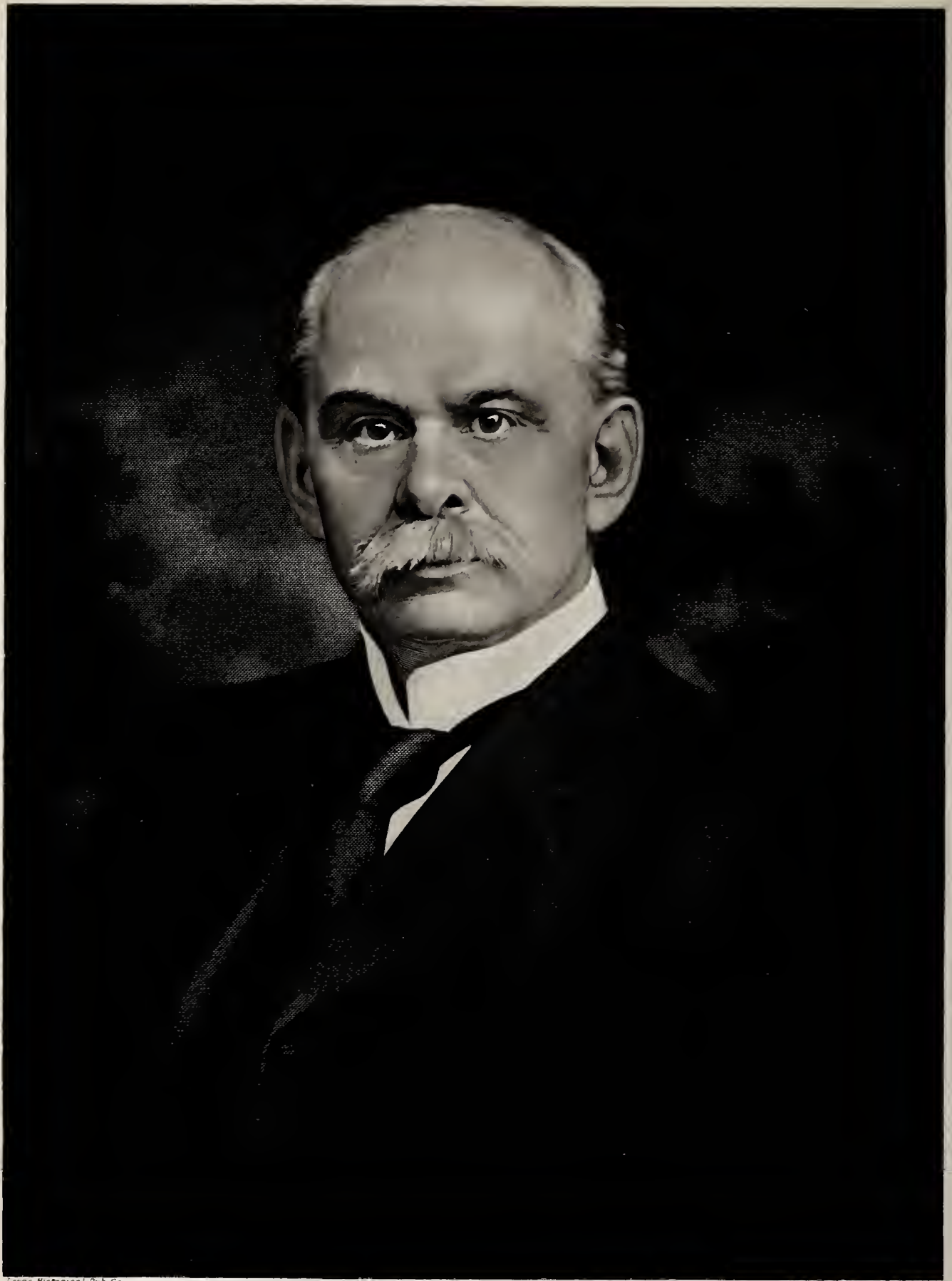
David Anthony Brayton was married, in Fall River, May 1, 1851, to Nancy R. Jenckes, daughter of John and Nancy (Bellows) Jenckes. They had five children, namely: 1. Nannie Jenckes Brayton (1853-1905), married (first) Norman Easton Borden, of Fall River; and (second) Henry Wayland Peabody, of Salem, Massachusetts. 2. David Anthony Brayton, Jr. (1855-1913), unmarried; he became associated with the Arnold Print Works, of North Adams, Massachusetts, and later succeeded his father as treasurer and manager of the Durfee Mills from 1881 until his death in 1913. 3. John Jenckes Brayton (1859-1915), unmarried; for several years he carried on a storage warehouse business and later became the president of the Durfee Mills, serving from 1908 until his death in 1915. 4. Elizabeth Hitchcock Brayton, born in 1865; unmarried. 5. Dana Dwight Brayton, born in 1869; married Florence Elizabeth Davis, of Fall River. He succeeded his brother as president of the Durfee Mills, and is director of several other corporations.

---

**JOHN SUMMERFIELD BRAYTON**, son of Israel and Keziah (Anthony) Brayton (q. v.), was born in Swansea, Massachusetts, December 3, 1826, and died in 1904. He attended the district school, fitting himself for teaching duties, and was enabled to continue his studies at Pierce's Academy, in Middleboro, and the University Grammar School, of Providence, Rhode Island. Subsequently, he was graduated from Brown University in the class of 1851, and deciding upon the legal profession, studied law in the office of Thomas Dawe Eliot, at New Bedford, and in the Dane Law School of Harvard College, being graduated in 1853. On August 8th of the same year he was admitted to the suffolk county bar and began active practice in Fall River. The first year of his professional career was made notable by the fact that he was chosen city solicitor, the first incumbent of that office in the newly-organized city. Later he served as clerk of courts for Bristol county. In 1864 he reentered general practice, in association with James M. Morton, who was later one of the justices of the Massachusetts Supreme Court. Mr. Brayton's appointment as financial agent of Mrs. Mary B. Young and B. M. C. Durfee, brought obligations and responsibilities that necessitated his withdrawal from legal practice, and from that time until his death he was a prominent figure in Fall River business circles. As president of the First National Bank and president







Jennings Historical Pub Co

Eng'd by E. C. Williams & Bro N.Y.

Andrew J. Jennings.



of B. M. C. Durfee Trust Company, he headed two of the city's most substantial and valuable institutions and to their service he gave himself with a fidelity and devotion that knew no bounds. His helpful influence extended into many spheres of community life and his assistance was at the ready call of his wide circle of friends in both practical and personal relations. Loyalty and dependability were two of his outstanding characteristics and they found notable expression in all of his many and varied interests. Mr. Brayton's public service included representation of Fall River in the Central Court of Massachusetts in 1856, and membership on the governor's council in 1866-67-68 and 1879-80, under Governors Bullock, Talbot and Long. History, general and local, appealed strongly to his studious and scholarly taste and he was also a patron of art and literature. His knowledge of the Narragansett country was equal to that of any expert on the subject, and he was president of the Old Colony Historical Society for several years, a member of the New England Historic and Genealogical Society, and from 1898 until his death was a member of the Massachusetts Historical Society. He was a loyal supporter of all forward movements in the cause of education. In 1893 his *alma mater*, Brown University, honored him with the degree of Doctor of Laws, and from 1898 until his passing he was a Fellow of that institution; he was likewise, from 1882 until 1900, a trustee of Amherst College. He was a man of rare quality, whose nature inclined instinctively to all that is good and true, in whom were admirably blended philanthropic and humanitarian aims and the faculty of practical administration.

John S. Brayton married, November 27, 1855, Sarah Jane Tinkham, daughter of Enoch and Rebecca (Williams) Tinkham, and they were the parents of three children: Mary Jarrett Bowers, who married Dr. Charles L. Nichols, of Worcester; Harriet Hitchcock; and John Summerfield, whose sketch follows.

**JOHN SUMMERFIELD BRAYTON**, son of John Summerfield, a sketch of whom precedes this, and Sarah Jane (Tinkham) Brayton, was born in Fall River, Massachusetts, September 16, 1864, and died there on April 20, 1923. His education was begun in the local public schools, and from the high school he went to Phillips Academy, at Andover, Massachusetts, whence he graduated in the class of 1884. Later, in 1888, he graduated from Amherst College, and then studied for a legal career at Harvard University Law School, entering upon the practice of law in Fall River, in partnership with the late Hon. Andrew Jackson Jennings and the late Justice James M. Morton. Although he was regarded as one of the promising young lawyers of his day, Mr. Brayton turned from the profession of his early choice after a few years of active practice and entered the banking field in association with his father, John S. Brayton, then president of the First National Bank of Fall River and presi-

dent of the B. M. C. Durfee Trust Company. Such was the ability of the younger man and so great the public confidence in him that upon the death of his father, in 1904, he succeeded to the presidency of both these institutions. It was one of the noteworthy characteristics of the man that in all his activity in the world of finance he went forward with the quiet dignity and unconscious power which makes the most forceful executives and forms the ablest leadership. His legal training was of incalculable benefit to the institutions with which he was identified, and his keen far-sightedness and cool judgment were constant factors in their great prosperity and permanent stability. Mr. Brayton was extensively interested in the industrial world of Fall River and vicinity, and at the time of his death he was identified with the Border City Manufacturing Company as president and director, also holding the same offices in the Troy Cotton and Woolen Company and the Union Cotton Manufacturing Company. He was a director of the American Linen Company, the Durfee Mills, the Foster Spinning Company, Charlton Mills, the Mechanics Mills and the Sagamore Manufacturing Company. In this center of textile activity he early appreciated the value of vocational education and for many years was one of the most active members of the board of trustees of the Bradford, Durfee Textile School of this city. He was also a trustee of the B. M. C. Durfee High School. His long and enthusiastic encouragement and support of the Fall River Boys' Club was a matter of more than routine distribution of benevolence, for he was deeply concerned in the development of the youths who were benefited by its activities and gave his close personal attention to the problems of the organization.

John Summerfield Brayton married, on June 20, 1894, Jessie Curtis Flint, daughter of John D. and Clarissa Curtis (Waterman) Flint, and they are the parents of four children: John S., Jr., Flint, Edith, and Anthony.

The following is quoted from a leading journal as expressive of the universal esteem and appreciation in which John Summerfield Brayton was held and as a contemporary estimate of his place in the community:

Seldom has Fall River received such a shock as falls upon it in the death of John S. Brayton, without the least forewarning. Rarely has a man, active in the business life of Fall River, been called, in a day, from his full share in his responsibilities to the silence of death. According to nature, Mr. Brayton should have had another score of years in the administration of the banking business, which he inherited, which he loved, and which he carried forward with success. That business had given him the opportunity, which he had the heart to use, to give not a few men the help in business which they needed, and of which he felt sure they were worthy, looking at their characters as an essential part of the security which they had to offer. Many causes looked to him for assistance, and usually not in vain, if he felt that they were worthy.

**HON. ANDREW JACKSON JENNINGS**, as a leading lawyer of Bristol county, Massachusetts, as a public servant, and as a legislator of his native



State, won marked distinction, and the influence of his long and useful life will bear beneficent fruit for many years to come. Mr. Jennings retired from professional activity and enjoyed the leisure he so richly deserved, but his former associates and colleagues looked up to him as one whose leadership they valued, and he was frequently sought in an advisory capacity among the active members of the profession. Mr. Jennings was one of the best known lawyers in Southeastern Massachusetts, and was a former member of the State Legislature and the Senate. He was at one time district attorney. Possessed of a gift for public speaking, he took part in many patriotic gatherings and was always ready to put his shoulder to the wheel for any movement for the public good. His influence was uplifting, and his death leaves a gap which will be hard to fill. One of his last public appearances, if not his last, was as president of the day at the annual Memorial Day exercises on May 30th last.

Andrew J. Jennings came of an old Colonial family, being the seventh in his line of descent from John Jennings, of Sandwich. Subsequent generations lived in Tiverton, where the first ancestor of the name settled, nearly 200 years ago, and where Mr. Jennings' grandfather, Isaac Jennings, was a well known resident. Andrew J. Jennings was a son of Andrew M. Jennings, who was born in what is now Fall River, Massachusetts, and was a machinist by trade. For thirty-five years he acted as foreman of Hawes, Marvel & Davol Machine Shops, at that time the second largest plant of this kind in the United States. Andrew M. Jennings died in the year of 1882, at the age of seventy-four years. The mother, Olive B. (Chace) Jennings, was born at Freetown, Massachusetts, and died at the age of seventy-six years.

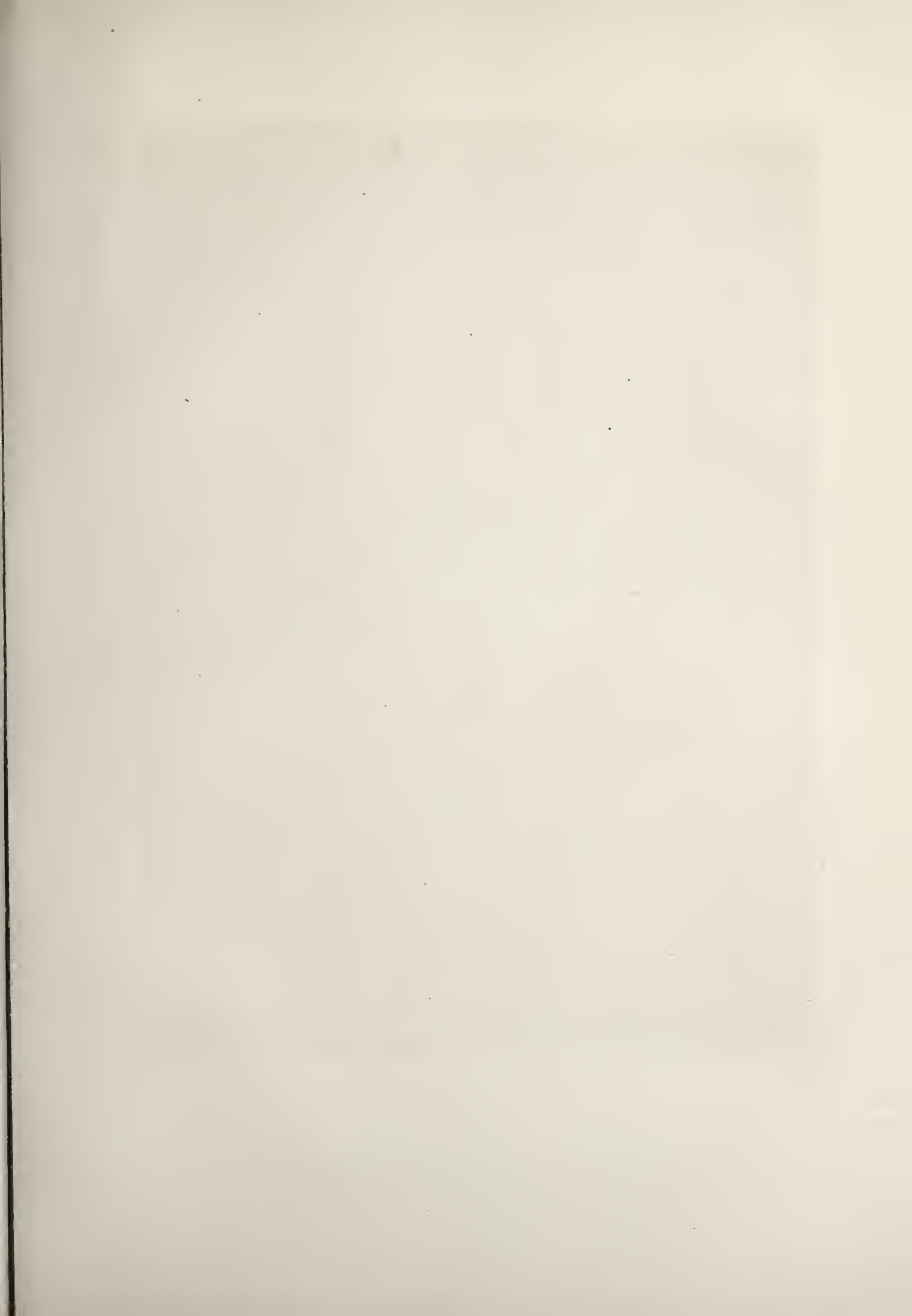
Andrew Jackson Jennings was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, August 2, 1849, died, October 19, 1923. His education was begun in the local public schools, and he later took a preparatory course at the Mowry & Goff School, at Providence, Rhode Island, after which he entered Brown University, whence he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, class of 1872. At Brown he took an active part in athletics, being captain of his class and the university's baseball teams. His higher education being more or less dependent upon his own efforts, Mr. Jennings thereafter taught school for two years in the Warren, Rhode Island, High School, after which he returned to Fall River and began the study of law in the office of James M. Morton. A short time later, however, he entered Boston University School of Law, from which he received his degree of Bachelor of Laws, with the class of 1876. He began his professional career as a partner of James M. Morton, this association being carried forward under the names of Morton & Jennings until the elevation of the senior member of this firm to the bench of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, which occurred in 1890. Thereupon Mr. Morton's son, James M. Morton, Jr., became Mr. Jennings' associate, and continued

in the same capacity until his appointment to the bench of the United States District Court, at Boston, Massachusetts. Another name was also identified with this partnership, that of John S. Brayton. Prior to the coming of Mr. Jennings into the firm, John S. Brayton, Sr., was the partner of the senior Mr. Morton, and on his appointment as clerk of the Superior Court, he still continued his affiliations, not wishing his name to be removed from the office sign. Upon the graduation of his son, John S. Brayton, Jr., from law school, the young man was taken into the firm, and thereby the names of John S. Brayton, as well as the names of James M. Morton and Andrew Jackson Jennings, remained continuously on the door of this office for a period of fifty-three years.

From the early years of his practice Mr. Jennings displayed the ability which not only wins personal success but commands the coöperation and loyalty of others. This quality was recognized many years ago by the leaders of the Republican party, and in 1878 he was elected to the Massachusetts State Legislature, where he served two successive terms. His work in this capacity was that of a man with not only a broadly alert but a definitely constructive mental endowment, and so gratifying to his constituency was his activity as a legislator, that the people of the district elected him to the State Senate in the year 1882. Serving one term as a Senator, Mr. Jennings was thereafter active in his private practice until November, 1894, when he was elected district attorney of the Southeastern District of Massachusetts, in which responsible office he served for a period of four years. As a citizen, a legislator, as a law officer of the government, he was always a tower of strength to the enemies of the drink curse. When a generation since, the Legislature of Massachusetts sent to the people for decision, the question of incorporating prohibition into the State constitution, and when the question was to be met, the friends of prohibition turned to him as a strong helper in the campaign which they were to wage.

Failing in that campaign, those who waged it still had in him a strong helper in the good cause. He was always relied upon for personal aid in no license campaigns. Whenever the city voted "no," he aided in the demand for the enforcement of the law. When, on that issue, the friends of law enforcement went to the State Legislature and obtained the law for the appointment of a police and license commission, Mr. Jennings was their leader. When the law was finally enacted and signed, it was in his law office that the first board of police and license was fashioned for recommendation to the appointing power. Whenever, since that date, the law or the board has been assailed in the Legislature, he has been a leader in defense of the law and of its administration, even down to last winter. As a lawyer he stood in the front rank. He had two fruitful terms in the office of district attorney. He took this position seriously and used it, to the utmost of his power, as an agency for the en-







Louis H. Storer, Inc. - Pub. Co.

Eng. by E. G. Williams & Bro. N.Y.

*Simon B. Chas.*



forcement of the law. No one ever offered to buy immunity from him. He used his professional skill with the desire to promote righteous judgment.

Mr. Jennings achieved prominence at the bar and was everywhere recognized as an able, painstaking, and energetic lawyer and advocate, being retained in many important cases. He was a member of the local school board for three years, and served as a member of the House of Representatives in 1878 and 1879, and as State Senator in 1882. During his three years in the House and Senate, he was an influential member of the judiciary committee and chairman of the joint committee on the removal of Judge Day by address in 1882. He was active in securing the passage of the civil damage law in the House, and the introduction of the school house liquor law in the Senate. He was a natural orator, of eloquent and pleasing address, and a public-spirited citizen. At the time of the rapid growth of the textile industry in Fall River 1895-1897, the tariff question became one of importance to the community and Mr. Jennings was retained to represent local manufacturing interests at tariff hearings in Washington. On these occasions he set forth the situation as it applied to the local textile mills and his knowledge of the situation was such that national tariff committees were guided to a great extent by the masterful presentation of the situation as argued by Mr. Jennings. On the day of General Grant's funeral, he was selected to deliver the memorial oration for this city, and on many other occasions, he was called upon to make important and fitting speeches.

Mr. Jennings had been for several years a trustee of Brown University, clerk of the Second Baptist Church, and was president of the Brown Alumni in 1891 and 1892. With the passing of the years Mr. Jennings became widely interested in various affairs in Fall River, Massachusetts, and was for a long period a trustee of the Union Savings Bank. In the industrial world he was a director of the Merchants Manufacturing Company, one of the largest cotton mills of Fall River, and in many branches of social and welfare work he was a noteworthy figure. For a full quarter of a century he served as president of the Fall River Young Men's Christian Association, and gave the weight of his influence to every forward movement. He was interested in and for several years was a trustee of the Fall River Historical Society. He was affiliated with King Philip Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; his clubs, the University, of Providence; and the Quequechan Club, of Fall River. His religious affiliation was with the Second Baptist Church, of Fall River, and he was chairman of the standing committee of the church society, teacher in the Sunday school, and he was devoted in his interest for the welfare of his church home.

Mr. Jennings married, in 1879, Marion G. Saunders, of Warren, Rhode Island, and to them two children were born: Oliver S., a graduate of Brown University, A. B., class of 1905, also a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, with

the degree, Electrical Engineer, now in the employ of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Marion J., wife of Dwight S. Waring, a well known cotton yarn merchant of Fall River, and for some years chairman of the Fall River Fire Commission.

Such, in brief, is the life story of this eminent lawyer and worthy citizen, Andrew J. Jennings, one of the strong men of his day and generation. The sincere effort and constant loyalty to high ideals, which marked both his public service and his individual endeavors, made his life a worthy example for the youth of today, and it is eminently fitting that now, as an honorable and venerable, though fallen figure in Fall River, the people should render to his name full appreciation for the work which he did.

**SIMEON BORDEN CHASE**—The business career of Simeon B. Chase has been compiled in the city of Fall River, Massachusetts, where he holds high office in textile corporations and financial institutions. To a long life of business activity Mr. Chase has added public service to his State and for many years he has been an earnest student of economic questions, giving especial attention to the tariff and the theory of protection as applied to American industry. He has spoken from many platforms in support of the tenets of the Republican party, and is known as an able, forcible and interesting public speaker, vigorous thinker and writer. He receives many requests for lectures and papers from the various literary societies of Fall River and to his quality as a business man and public speaker he adds social qualities and sterling character, which in all complete an engaging personality.

The surname Chase is derived from the French "chasser," meaning to hunt, and the family has been prominent in England since the first use of surnames. The seat of the family in England was at Chesham, in Buckinghamshire, through which runs a rapidly flowing river called the Chess, whence the name of the town and perhaps also of the family. Thomas and Aquila Chase, brothers, whose English ancestry is traced to remote antiquity, are believed to have been cousins of William Chase, the immigrant ancestor, mentioned below. Some branches of this family in America have used the spelling Chace, but the form in most general use is that at the head of this review.

(I) William Chase, a native of England, born in 1595, came to America in Governor Winthrop's fleet in 1630, accompanied by his wife Mary and son William. He settled first in Roxbury, Massachusetts, where he became a member of the First Church, presided over by Rev. John Eliot, the Indian Apostle. In the autumn following his arrival he was propounded for freeman, and was admitted May 14, 1634. About 1637 he joined the company which established a new plantation at Yarmouth, in what is now Barnstable county, Massachusetts. There he served as constable in



1639, and continued to reside there until his death, in May, 1659. In October following his widow passed away. William Chase was a soldier against the Narragansett Indians in 1645. He had two children born after his arrival in America, namely: Mary; May, 1637, in Roxbury; and Benjamin, 1639, in Yarmouth.

(II) William (2) Chase, eldest son of William and Mary Chase, was born about 1622, in England, and accompanied his father to Yarmouth, where he lived, and died February 27, 1685. There is no record of his wife. His children were: William; Jacob; John; Elizabeth; Abraham; Joseph; Benjamin, of whom further; and Samuel.

(III) Benjamin Chase, son of William (2) Chase, lived in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, and married Amey Borden, born May 30, 1678, daughter of John and Mary (Earle) Borden. She died before 1716. Children: Patience; Elizabeth; Nathan, mentioned below; Benjamin; and Abner.

(IV) Nathan Chase, eldest son of Benjamin and Amey (Borden) Chase, was born January 13, 1704, and lived in Portsmouth, where he married, April 29, 1731, Elizabeth Shaw. Children: Borden; Holder, mentioned below; Amey, Clark, Anna, Content, Benjamin and Hannah.

(V) Holder Chase, second son of Nathan and Elizabeth (Shaw) Chase, was born August 24, 1733, in Portsmouth, and lived in that town, where he died in February, 1820. He married there, February 21, 1760, Freeborn Dennis, daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Durfee) Dennis, born August 18, 1739, in Portsmouth. Children: Nathan, died in childhood; Sarah, married Benjamin Mott, of Portsmouth; Nathan, married Anne Sherman, of Portsmouth, daughter of Sampson and Ruth (Fish) Sherman; Anna, married in Portsmouth, John Weeden, of Jamestown, Rhode Island; Eliza; Borden, married (first) September 12, 1802, Sarah Folger, (second) Ruth Bunker, both of Nantucket, Massachusetts; Amey, died in childhood; Abner, born in Portsmouth, married there, October 5, 1803, Deborah Chace, daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Almy) Chase; Clark, mentioned below; Freeborn, died unmarried, November 23, 1819.

(VI) Clark Chase, fifth son of Holder and Freeborn (Dennis) Chase, married, in Tiverton, Rhode Island, December 26, 1811, Anne Borden, daughter of Simeon and Amey (Briggs) Borden. Children: Simeon B.; Amey A., married, January 5, 1838, Humphrey Almy; Borden, mentioned below; Philip Briggs, married Sarah, daughter of William Earle and Eunice (Sherman) Cook; Sarah Freeborn, married Stephen Davol, of Fall River; Eliza, married Charles Fowler, of Brooklyn, New York; Charles, married Frances C. Pearce, of Bristol, Rhode Island; Nathaniel B., married Louise M. Pierson; Alfred Clark, married (first) Mrs. Clapp and (second) Ruth Anthony, and had children: Ruth (Mrs. Hedley), and Edmund.

(VII) Borden Chase, second son of Clark and Anne (Borden) Chase, was born April 5, 1816, and resided in Portsmouth, engaged in agriculture until

1875, when he removed to Fall River, Massachusetts. His farm was one of the handsomest of the section, and his home was noted for its bountiful hospitality. In 1871 he engaged in the coal business at Fall River, establishing the Fall River Coal Company, and was subsequently, for some time, interested in the Globe Coal Company of that city. For many years he was a warden of the Church of the Ascension of Fall River, where he died February 20, 1879. He married, in Portsmouth, December 24, 1838, Elizabeth Anthony Thomas, of the city, daughter of Joseph and Hannah S. (Anthony) Thomas. Children: 1. Annie Borden, married William H. Jennings. 2. Frederick, married (first) Louise Tallman, of Portsmouth; (second) Edith Snell. 3. Clark, married Emma F. Boyd, and had children. 4. Simeon Borden, mentioned below.

(VIII) Simeon Borden Chase, youngest son of Borden and Elizabeth A. (Thomas) Chase, was born at Portsmouth, Rhode Island, January 10, 1849, and there spent the first eighteen years of his life, acquiring an education in the public schools. After graduation from business college in Providence, he entered business life as a clerk in the office of the Merchants' Manufacturing Company, in Fall River, Massachusetts. In 1870 he went West, and for eighteen months was located in the State of Nebraska. In 1872 he returned to the employ of the Merchants' Manufacturing Company, of Fall River, remaining until 1875 as a bookkeeper. In the latter year he accepted a position with the Tecumseh Mills and was elected treasurer of the company. In 1882 he resigned that office and returned to the Merchants' Manufacturing Company, but now as treasurer of that corporation. In February, 1885, Mr. Chase was elected treasurer of the King Philip Mills, the largest in Fall River, an office he yet holds. From that time he has been connected officially with many Fall River manufacturing and financial corporations, among them being the Barnaby Manufacturing Company, of which he was president; the Crystal Spring Bleaching and Dyeing Company; the Wampanoag Mills; the Globe Yarn Mills; the Stevens' Manufacturing Company, of which he has been the president since 1898; the Tecumseh Mills, which he serves as treasurer; the Osborn Mills; Davol Mills; Merchants' Manufacturing Company; Stevens' Manufacturing Company; Boston Manufacturers' Mutual Insurance Company; and the Fall River Manufacturing Mutual Insurance Company. All of these concerns carry his name as a director. He is also president of the Metacomet National Bank, of Fall River. A Republican in politics, Mr. Chase has never desired public office and has only accepted what was a clear duty, membership in City Council and on the Massachusetts State Board of Education, being appointed to the latter office by Governor Draper. He is held in high esteem in the community in which his life has been largely spent, and he reviews a life of great usefulness in aiding the development of that community.



Simeon B. Chase married, on March 19, 1874, Louise Whitman Hills, born November 2, 1848, daughter of John E. and Mary (Whitman) Hills, and a descendant of William Hills, born in England, who came to New England on the ship "Lyon," September 16, 1632, becoming a resident of Roxbury, Massachusetts, and later of Hartford, Connecticut. Mr. and Mrs. Chase are the parents of five children: 1. Mary Whitman (Mrs. William Wilson Heaton), residing at Greenwich, Connecticut, has three children: Mary, Chase and Sarah. 2. Anne Borden, wife of Philip E. Tripp, of Fall River, and they have three children: Borden, Judith, and Mary E. 3. Louise S., married George Hewitt Myers, of Washington, District of Columbia, and they have three children: Persis Chase, Mary Hewitt, and Louise Chase. 4. Genevieve, who married Richard K. Hawes, of Fall River, and they have two sons: Richard K., Jr., and Simeon Borden Chase. 5. Florence, married Paul Gifford, of Fall River, and they have two children: Benjamin F. C. and Louise Whitman.

#### JUDGE ARTHUR MARTINEAU ALGER—

When in 1876 Arthur M. Alger was awarded his degree in law, he located his home in Taunton, Massachusetts, and continued a devotee of the law until his passing in 1921, at the age of sixty-seven. He was not known as a practitioner to any great extent but as an official and jurist. In his early life he was called to public place, and as clerk, registrar and judge he compiled a rare record of efficiency and usefulness. He was an interested friend and adviser of the younger generation of Taunton lawyers and these young men received valuable aid and help from the veteran. In his direction of his court he was courteous and most considerate. A probate court is a revelation in family amenities and scores of open family ruptures were prevented and differences adjusted by Judge Alger by his sympathetic talks with the interested parties, ere the law was evoked. He usually found a common ground upon which a start toward conciliation could be made, and he achieved some surprising results as a peace-maker.

Judge Alger was an accurate student of legal history and devoted much of his time to careful research work with regard to the sources of information concerning the earlier settlers of the Taunton section. He was an authority on the beginnings of the Cohannet settlement, and familiar with the histories of all the towns of the Old Colony as well as the group to the north. During the year 1878 he wrote a series of articles for the "Bristol County Republican," comprising the biographies of such men as Daniel Leonard, Judge Samuel White and Robert Treat Paine. His great work, however, in this line was a history of the descendants of Thomas Alger, his ancestor. In this work, which he brought down to the year 1875, he traced the line of descent through nearly 1,000 names. From this work it is learned that the American ancestor was Thomas Alger, who came to New Eng-

land about 1665, Judge Alger being of the eighth American generation. He was a son of Rev. William Rounseville and Anne Langdon (Lodge) Alger, a daughter of Giles and Abigail Langdon Lodge, of Boston. Mrs. Alger was a sister of Henry Cabot Lodge, senior United States Senator from Massachusetts.

The line of descent from Thomas Alger and his wife, Elizabeth Packard, to Judge Arthur M. Alger is through the former's son, Israel Alger, and his wife, Patience Hayward; their son, Israel (2) Alger, and his wife, Susanna Snow; their son, Lieutenant James Alger, and his wife, Martha Kingman; their son, James (2) Alger, and his wife, Hannah Bassett; their son, Nahum Alger, and his wife, Catherine Sampson Rounseville; their son, Rev. William Rounseville Alger, and his wife, Anne Langdon Lodge; their son, Arthur Martineau Alger, whose career is herein traced.

Catherine Sampson (Rounseville) Alger, wife of Nahum Alger of the sixth generation, was a daughter of Rev. William Rounseville, a Baptist clergyman, who for over ten consecutive years represented Freetown in the General Court. She was a granddaughter of Captain Levi Rounseville, who commanded a company of "minute-men" that marched from Freetown to Lexington April 19, 1775, and later was a captain in the Ninth Regiment of the Continental Army. Rev. William R. Alger was a graduate of the Divinity School of Harvard University, whence he was graduated in 1847, later being ordained a Unitarian clergyman. Harvard conferred upon him the honorary degree, Master of Arts, and he filled pastorates in Boston, New York City and other Massachusetts towns. He was famous as a pulpit orator and in demand as a lecturer, the chaplain of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and author of a number of books, one of which, "The Doctrine of a Future Life," passed through fourteen editions. He delivered the oration at the unveiling of the monument to Edgar Allen Poe at the Metropolitan Art Museum of New York and was in close touch with the thinkers and scholars of his day. He married Anne Langdon Lodge, also the descendant of an illustrious member of Congress. One of their sons, Captain Philip R. Alger, was for several years professor of mathematics at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis and one of the foremost experts on ordnance in the country, publishing text books and various papers on that subject. A daughter, Abbie Langdon Alger, who died in 1905, was a remarkable linguist, who translated and published a number of books.

Arthur Martineau Alger, son of Rev. William Rounseville and Anne Langdon (Lodge) Alger, was born in that part of Boston formerly Roxbury, September 23, 1854, died at his home on Somerset avenue, Taunton, Massachusetts, June 2, 1921. He was educated in Boston Latin School, private schools, and in the law department of the Boston University, whence he was graduated in 1876. He read law in the office of F. B. Bryant, of Boston, and was



admitted to the Suffolk county bar in the year of his graduation from law school. He at once located in Taunton, entering the law offices of Judge William H. Fox, continuing with him until he was appointed clerk of the District Court in 1879. He filled that office until 1893 and was chosen register of probate. During this period he also served the city as alderman for one year, as city solicitor for four years, and as mayor, in 1890, declining reelection. In 1911, while still holding the office of register, he was appointed judge of the Probate Court, succeeding Judge William E. Fuller. Judge Alger was endorsed for the judgeship in the form of a petition presented to Governor Foss by John W. Cummings of Fall River, signed by every member of the Bristol county bar. This was an unusual endorsement and well deserved, for during the twenty-eight years that he had served as register he had won all hearts by his courtesy and consideration. He served as judge of the Probate Court until his death ten years later. He sat as auditor and master on several important cases and was recognized as one of the leading authorities in matters on corporation and probate law. He was the author of "Fuller's Probate Law," which began while he was register of probate, which included rulings from Judge Fuller, amplified later by many of his own, and which represented years of application. He was the author of another book which gave him prominence, "A Treatise on Law in Relation to Promoters and the Promotion of Corporations." He was a frequent contributor to the Harvard "Law Review," and the author of several lesser treatises. He was also one of the editors of "Contributions. Biographical, Historical, and Genealogical," published by the New England Historic and Genealogical Society.

Aside from his law interest and activities, Judge Alger was identified with a number of Taunton financial and industrial enterprises. He was a trustee of the Taunton Savings Bank, and a director of the Taunton National Bank until its merger with the Bristol County National into the Worcester County Trust Company. He was a director of the Corr Manufacturing Company, a director of the Boston Investment Company, of the Massachusetts Real Estate Company, and one of the directors of the Old Colony Historical Society. He was senior partner of the law firm, Alger, Dean & Sullivan, of Boston, the consulting member of the firm. He was a member of the Masonic order, affiliated with Ionic Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; and a member of the Winthrop Club, of Taunton.

Probably the tribute paid by Mayor Coughlin best expressed the feelings of Taunton toward this foremost citizen: Mayor Coughlin said:

In the passing of the Honorable Arthur M. Alger, the city has lost one of its most distinguished citizens. Many years of honorable public service earned for him the admiration and the respect of those who had occasion to deal with him, and he has long been recognized as an authority on those branches of the law in which he specialized.

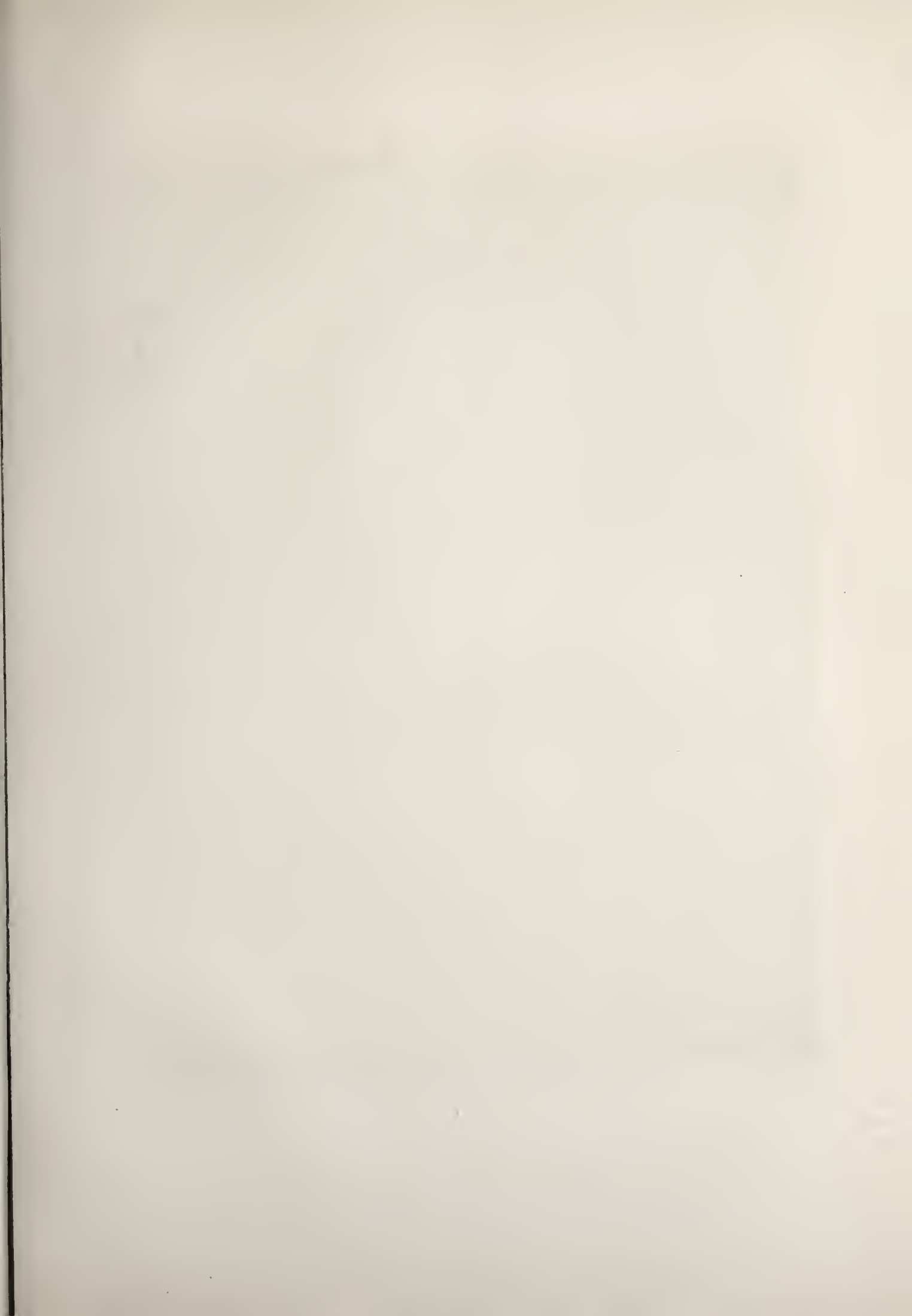
In his younger years he was elected to the highest office within the gift of the citizens of Taunton, that of Mayor; and in his later years, as Judge of Probate, he maintained the high standards of that office established by his predecessors, Judge Bennett and Judge Fuller.

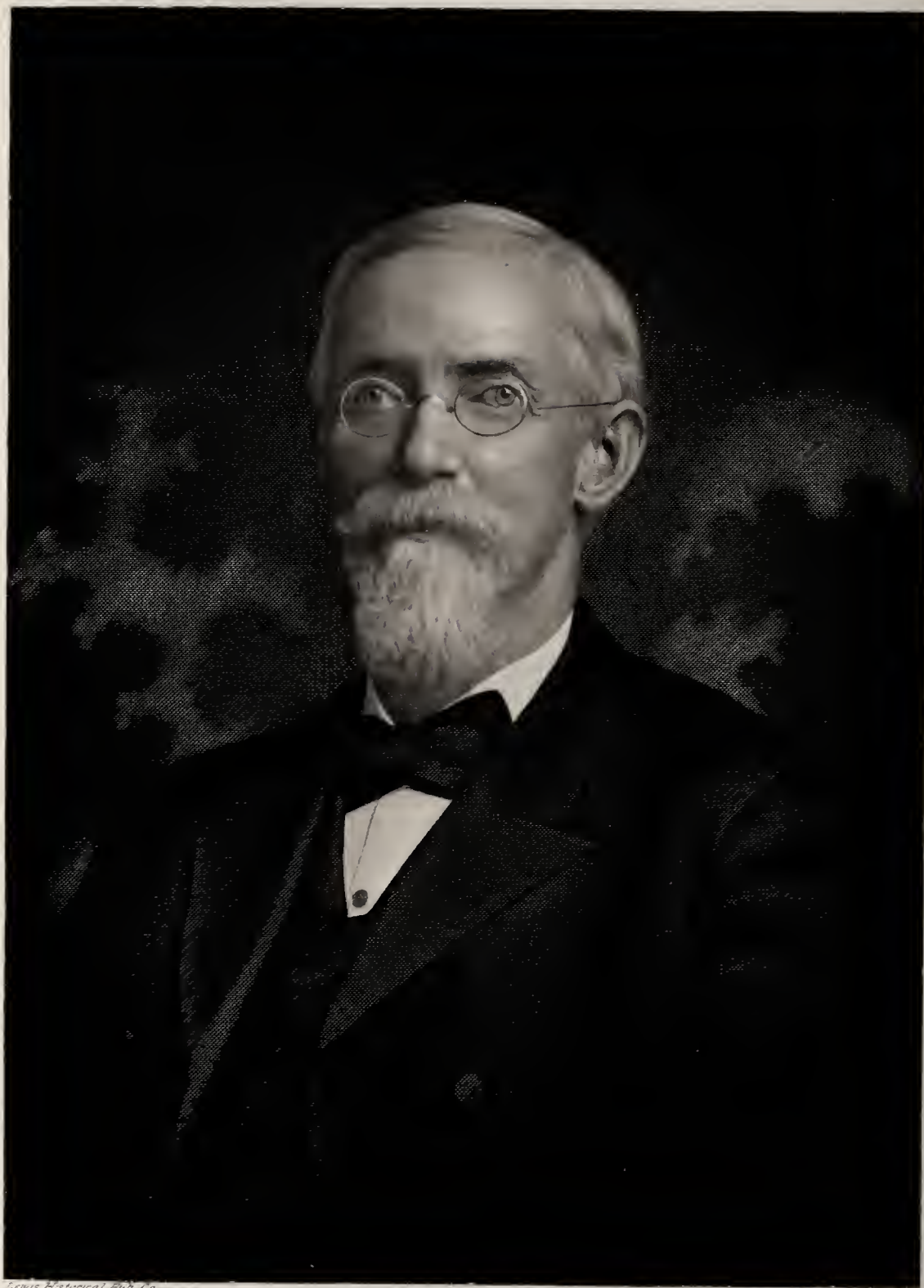
Judge Alger married, April 22, 1882, Lelia C. Sanders, daughter of George B. and Elizabeth S. Sanders. She died October 24, 1895, leaving two daughters: Mary Lodge, wife of John D. Sullivan, graduate of Harvard University and of Harvard Law School, a practicing lawyer of Boston, member of the firm Alger, Dean & Sullivan; and Anne Langdon, wife of a Mr. Sherman, of New Bedford, Massachusetts. Both of these daughters survive their father, whose estate they inherit.

**HON. WILLIAM A. COPELAND, A. B., A. M., LL.B.**—Professionally prominent as a lawyer in Bristol county, Massachusetts, and with forty-three years of practice to his credit, Hon. William A. Copeland holds an outstanding position in the town of Mansfield, where he was born and where the greater part of his life has been spent. With professional interests in both Boston and Mansfield for many years, Mr. Copeland has won an enviable position in his chosen field of endeavor. Mr. Copeland is a member of one of the very old and honored families of Mansfield. He is a son of Almon and Elizabeth (Allen) Copeland, both natives of Mansfield. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, died at an early age in 1880, but the mother survived him for many years, passing away at an advanced age in 1907.

William A. Copeland was born at Mansfield, Massachusetts, October 23, 1855. His education was begun in the local public schools, and he later attended Bristol Academy, at Taunton, Massachusetts, where he prepared for college. Entering Amherst College, he was graduated in the class of 1877, and received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in the arts from that institution. Later entering the Boston University Law School, his graduation occurred in the class of 1880, and he received the Bachelor's degree in the law. In December, 1880, Mr. Copeland was admitted to the bar of his native State, and took up the practice of his profession in Boston under his own name. Continuing independently until 1905, he then became a member of the law firm of Macleod, Calver, Copeland & Dike, with offices at No. 350 Tremont building, Boston. He is still affiliated with this professional organization, and they specialize on patents and trade marks. In this field of legal advance they hold a leading position and Mr. Copeland has come to be recognized as an authority. For a number of years he conducted an office at Mansfield, but the importance of his interests in Boston led to his discontinuance of the local office a number of years ago. Mr. Copeland was, for nearly forty years, a trustee of the local public library. A Republican by political affiliation, Mr. Copeland was elected to the Massachusetts State Legislature for the years of 1882-1883, serving with honor and distinction in the deliberations of that body. He was a member of the Mansfield School Committee for six years, and was moderator of the town for fifteen years. His acceptance of public responsibility, however, has been only as it has







Lewis Historical Photo Co

Eng by E. C. Williams & Bro NY

Joseph A. Bowen



been presented to him as a duty, for he has never sought the honors or the responsibilities of office. During the World War he served on various boards governing the activities of the time.

Mr. Copeland takes a deep interest in historical subjects, particularly those touching upon the early records of the town of Mansfield. He has gathered a great deal of material on these subjects and at various times has delivered addresses of a historical nature, particularly regarding Bristol county's honored past. He is one of those men who holds the highest esteem and confidence of every one of his fellow-citizens. Fraternally Mr. Copeland is affiliated with St. James' Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, of which he is past master; Key-tone Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Bristol Commandery, Knights Templar; and Massachusetts Consistory, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, in which he holds the thirty-second degree; he is also a member of Aleppo Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. Mr. Copeland early affiliated himself with the religious advance and has long been a member of the Congregational church. He sang in the local church choir for twenty-five years, for twenty-three years was superintendent of the Sunday school and is now a deacon, having served as a member of the general committee for a long period of time.

Hon. William A. Copeland married, on October 26, 1904, Lucy S. Fairbanks, of Mansfield, daughter of Henry H. Fairbanks, of this place, a veteran of the Civil War, and for many years a clerk in the department of the State Board of Charity, his death occurring in 1918. The mother, Emma L. (Day) Fairbanks, was born in Upton, Massachusetts, and died a number of years ago.

**JOSEPH ABRAHAM BOWEN**—Of permanent and benevolent significance to the city of Fall River was the life of Joseph Abraham Bowen, useful citizen, successful business executive, and efficient public servant. He lived to be nearly eighty-two years of age, and from childhood until his passing, his life was one of more than ordinary usefulness. Entering the world of men and affairs as a young lad, Mr. Bowen acquired sanity of judgment and breadth of wisdom with every experience, and up to the end of his long life he felt a keen interest in public events and exercised a guiding hand in the conduct of the large coal business he had developed. Nearly a decade has passed since the streets of Fall River have known his footfall, but the inspiration of his worthy career still lives in the memory of all whose privilege it was to know him.

The Bowen family became identified with the progress of the community now known as Fall River at a very early period in the history of the settlement. John Bowen, Mr. Bowen's great-great-grandfather, was in Freetown as early as 1739. He was presumably a descendant of Richard Bowen, who came from Kittle Hill, Glamorganshire, Wales, to Weymouth, Massachusetts, in the year 1638, later settling permanently at Rehoboth. The family touches through intermarriage, since the day of

John Bowen, several of the important families of this city and of New England—Borden, Durfee, Winslow, Cook, Read, Corey, Bennett, Valentine, Bliss, Briggs and Sweet, a group of Colonial Revolutionary names extending to the earliest period of English settlement in New England and through every department of the public, professional, and business life of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

John Bowen, the pioneer of Fall River, was a man of large business ability, who used for the general welfare, as well as for his individual interest the practical force and excellent judgment with which he was endowed. He became the owner of extensive tracts of land in what is now the Southern part of the city of Fall River. His homestead is still standing on South Main street, near the eminence formerly known as Bowen's Hill, although many changes have been made since the days when it was occupied by John Bowen and his family. John Bowen married, on July 3, 1739, Penelope Read Borden, the record of this fact being the first concerning the family in the Fall River district.

Nathan Bowen, son of the pioneer and great-grandfather of Joseph A. Bowen, rendered military service in behalf of the Colonies during the Revolutionary War. His influence in the community was always for progress, and he reared his children to lives of usefulness and distinction. Nathan Bowen married Hannah Cook.

Abraham Bowen, the next in line, became one of the pioneer cotton manufacturers of Fall River, and was active in the production of cotton cloth from 1813. In 1822 he became one of the eight incorporators of the Pocasset Manufacturing Company, the history of which concern is an important chapter in the brilliant record of industrial achievement in Fall River. In association with Oliver Chace and Dexter Wheeler, Abraham Bowen incorporated the Watuppa Reservoir Company, and was a leader in all that contributed to the welfare of the people. Evidence of the esteem in which he was held is found in the fact that he was for several years chosen to represent his district in the General Court. At the time of his death, which occurred March 9, 1824, he had filled the office of postmaster of Fall River for eight years. He married Ruth Graves, and their home was at the northeast corner of Main and Bedford streets.

Abraham (2) Bowen, son of Abraham and Ruth (Graves) Bowen, took an influential part in the business and intellectual activities of his time. Engaged in a teaming business for a number of years, his more important commercial activity was as a member of the grain and shipping firm of Read & Bowen. For a long period of time he edited and published a periodical entitled "All Sorts," and his editorial comments upon the fancies and foibles of his time were eminently illuminative and constructive. His death, which occurred January 24, 1889, removed from Fall River a citizen whose usefulness was by no means to be measured by the number of his years, even though he lived to a ripe age. Abraham (2) Bowen married Sarah Ann



Read, daughter of Major Joseph Evans and Sibyl (Valentine) Read, a direct descendant of John Read, of Newport, Rhode Island, Abraham (2) Bowen himself built the house on Rock street, in which he resided for about sixty years. There his children were born, and there his daughter, Sarah V. Bowen, has resided throughout the entire period of her life to the present time (1923). She completed her eighty-fourth year, December 8, 1923.

Joseph Abraham Bowen, only son of Abraham (2) and Sarah Ann (Read) Bowen, was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, October 10, 1832, and died at his summer home in Warren, Rhode Island, September 30, 1914. He lies buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, in Fall River. As a young man, Mr. Bowen attended both the public and private schools of his native city, but from his eighth year spent much time in his father's printing office, where he was employed when not engaged with his studies. In the year 1849 he became a student at the Fall River High School, thereby entering the first class to pass through the courses of that institution. In 1856 Mr. Bowen engaged in an independent business as a coal dealer. He first leased Morgan's Wharf, at the foot of Walnut street, then later bought Slade's Wharf, still later purchased a half interest in Morgan's Wharf, using both in his business operations. His energy and ability, together with his policy of personally supervising all his own affairs, carried him to large prosperity, and for fifty-three years he directed successfully the development and growth of an enterprise which became one of the most important in this city. In this connection Mr. Bowen's fearless spirit is clearly apparent, also his ingenuity in overcoming difficulties and at the same time bending his achievement to the widest possible use. He built and managed a fleet of sea-going vessels, and in order that he might bring coal direct by ship to his own yards in Fall River, he had extensive harbor dredging done at his own expense. That was the initial movement which resulted in harbor improvement at Fall River, the immediate and also the permanent benefit derived from his efforts counting largely in the recognition of this city as a progressive and enterprising civic center. In 1883 Mr. Bowen began shipping Pocahontas Coal from the mines at Bluefield, West Virginia, and until his death he handled coal from that district. His first cargo was shipped from Norfolk, Virginia, and was the earliest shipment of Pocahontas coal received in New England from that port. It was distributed among the cotton mills of Fall River.

In addition to his many and important business responsibilities Mr. Bowen found time for notably efficient and valuable local public service. He was elected a member of the Common Council in 1862-63, and of the Board of Aldermen in 1869-70. As chairman of the committee to consider the advisability of establishing a city water system, he rendered service which is still benefiting the community. He not only "reported favorably" and used his energy and his ability to arouse the interest and coöperation of others in securing an ade-

quate water supply, but when this measure was adopted, served as a member of the first board of water commissioners, in which capacity he took an active and efficient part in the construction of the city water supply system. For two years Mr. Bowen was president of the Fall River Board of Trade, and in addition to the development of his prosperous coal business he was also interested in a number of industrial enterprises, chiefly along the line of cotton manufacture, which contributed largely to the economic prosperity of the city. Thus his part in the development and growth of this city was an important one from his early life to the close of his long career, and to all who were closely associated with him it was a great source of gratification that he was spared to see his hopes for the city realized. Mr. Bowen's acquaintance was wide, both within and without the city, and he was sought for leadership and counsel as long as he lived. Energetic, clear-sighted, benevolent and kindly in spirit, his friends were legion and his influence for good unbounded. His pleasing personality and his sterling qualities of character won and held the regard of all who were associated with him in his varied activities. During the greater part of his lifetime he was identified with the Central Congregational Church, and he gave his hearty support to its work.

Joseph Abraham Bowen married, on January 19, 1865, at Fall River, Massachusetts, Fanny Maria Corey, who was born in Fall River, August 21, 1840, daughter of Jonathan and Clarissa (Bennett) Corey. Mrs. Bowen is a direct descendant of William Corey, of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, a deputy to the General Court, a captain of Militia, and a man of importance in his town, who died in 1682. The line of descent was through his son, John (1); his son, John (2); his son, Thomas; his son, Benjamin; and his son, Jonathan, Mrs. Bowen's father. In every generation the members of this family bore a worthy part in the progressive activities of the time. Two children were born to Joseph A. and Fanny M. (Corey) Bowen: Joseph Henry, of further mention; and Fanny Corey, born in the old house built by Abraham Bowen, a graduate of Fall River High School and of Smith College, a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

Joseph Henry Bowen, only son of Joseph A. and Fanny Maria (Corey) Bowen, was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, March 18, 1866, and died April 16, 1918. He was a graduate of Fall River High School (1883), Phillips-Exeter Academy (1884), and Harvard University (1888), receiving the degree of Bachelor of Arts *cum laude* from the university. Following the completion of his education Mr. Bowen became associated with his father in the coal business, and upon the death of the founder assumed executive responsibility, remaining as head of the enterprise until his death. He was also a member of the board of directors for several corporate interests in Fall River. A man of sound judgment and signal ability, highly esteemed by his



contemporaries, Mr. Bowen willingly bore his share of the burden of public service, not only in official capacity as a member of the municipal council, but as an active promoter of all projects which seemed to him to be wisely planned for the advancement of the general welfare. He was deeply interested in, and to the end of his career gave considerable time and attention to all sorts of outdoor sports. He was also a home-loving man and much of his leisure was devoted to the interests of his family. He married, on June 19, 1890, Mary S. Whitney, a daughter of Edward H., and Jennie (Hooper) Whitney, of Cambridge, Massachusetts. Three children were born to Joseph H. and Mary S. (Whitney) Bowen: 1. Joseph Whitney, born May 18, 1891, was educated in the Fall River public schools, grade and high; Phillips-Exeter Academy, class of 1908; and Harvard University, degree of Bachelor of Arts, class of 1912. He was associated with his father in the coal business until the death of the latter, then succeeded him, and is now the third in direct line to be identified with the enterprise founded by Joseph A. Bowen in 1856. He is now president of the Joseph A. Bowen Coal Company, also treasurer of the Laurel Lake Mills, manufacturers of cotton print cloth, a director of the Fall River National Bank, and trustee of the Five Cent Savings Bank. He married, November 16, 1915, Florence Horton, daughter of Melvin Borden Horton, of Fall River. Mr. and Mrs. Bowen are the parents of two children: Joseph Horton, and Richard. 2. Harold Corey, born May 26, 1896, educated in the Fall River public schools, grade and high, and Phillips-Exeter Academy, now treasurer of the Joseph A. Bowen Coal Company. He married Edith M. Kidd, daughter of Dr. F. O. Kidd, of Fall River. 3. Edward Hooper, born October 14, 1899, educated in the Fall River schools and Phillips-Exeter Academy, now engaged in the cotton business as a member of the firm of Gifford & Bowen. He married Isabel Carpenter, daughter of Frank L. Carpenter, of Fall River. Mrs. Fanny Maria (Corey) Bowen survives her husband; her home is the old Bowen residence in Fall River, where also her daughter, Fanny C. Bowen, resides. Mrs. Bowen is a charter member of the Quequechan Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and has been for more than fifty years a very devoted member of the Central Congregational Church. The summer home is "Juniper Farm," Warren, Rhode Island.

**JAMES G. MORAN, LL.B.**—A distinguished figure in Bristol county, Massachusetts, and, indeed, in the State of Massachusetts, is Senator James G. Moran, of Mansfield, whose professional achievements have been won by his own efforts, his degree of Bachelor of Laws having been gained after he was active for some years in the business world. Mr. Moran is one of those men whose activities contribute in a large degree to the general welfare, and whose lives bear out in consistent advance the theories and principles of which they are the exponents. Senator Moran's public service, which has

covered a period of some thirteen or fourteen years, is a record of broad usefulness, and those who are most familiar with his activities are the most cordial in commendation of the man; both in his professional capacity and as a progressive citizen. He is well appraised by the slogan which contributed largely to his popularity during his campaign for senator, "Ask the man who knows him."

William N. Moran, father of Senator Moran, was born in Mansfield, Massachusetts, and for many years was active as ticket agent at the local office of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Company. A man of the highest integrity and public spirit, he was for many years active in the civic affairs of the community, and while he did much for local advance in an unofficial way, he served also for some years as a member of the Board of Registrars. He was widely known in fraternal circles as a leading member of Saint James Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, of which for a long period he was secretary. He died in Mansfield, in the year 1894. The mother, Marion T. (Tobit) Moran, was also born in Mansfield, Massachusetts, and survived her husband for many years, passing away at an advanced age in the year 1921.

James G. Morgan, son of these parents, was born in Mansfield, Massachusetts, May 2, 1870. His education was begun in the local public schools, and he was graduated from the Mansfield High School in the class of 1887. Thereafter having the advantage of a course at Lawrence Academy, Groton, Massachusetts, he was graduated from that institution in the class of 1892. In the year 1893 Mr. Moran entered the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, but on account of the death of his father, he was obliged to leave the institution at the end of his first year of study. He then entered the employ of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Company, in the capacity of fireman, and after two years in this work he was made a towerman, at Boston, where he was active for ten years in the same capacity. Mr. Moran was employed during the night, and his early evenings were spent at the Young Men's Christian Association Law School, at Boston, from which he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. Then followed Mr. Moran's appointment as postmaster of Mansfield, which office he received from President Taft, and in this responsible office he served for a period of four years. In the year 1916 he was admitted to the bar of his native State, and has since been active in the practice of law in Boston with a branch office at Mansfield, where he receives his clients in the evening. He handles a general line of practice in an independent way, and has won large success.

Widely known as he is in both Boston and Bristol county, James G. Moran was very naturally brought forward in the public service, and in the year 1910 was a member of the Republican State committee, serving for two years. He has also for several years been a member of the Bristol county committee, and chairman of the Republican town committee. His ability and his broad famil-



ilarity with current conditions and affairs led the people of this section to look to him for higher service than that of a local nature, and in 1917 he was elected to the Massachusetts Legislature, as representative of the second Bristol district. He served three successive years in this capacity, and during his activity in the House was appointed to the committee of legal affairs, upon which he served for one year, and was later appointed to the judiciary committee, serving for two years. The excellent record of Representative Moran and his broad usefulness in the House of Assembly, both in the service of his constituents and in forwarding the general good of the commonwealth, placed him very high in the estimation of the people. It was only in logical sequence of events that he was elected senator of Bristol county in the year 1922, and is now serving in the Upper House of the State Legislature, as the successor of Silas D. Reed, of Taunton, Massachusetts. No more concise and dignified statement can be made of the significance to Mansfield of this election than was printed in the election folders scattered broadcast at the time. The pride of the people in the elevation of their townsman to this position of dignity and honor is therein well expressed:

Mansfield had not named a candidate for Senator since 1866—a period of fifty-six years. She presents a self-made man and one who can and will serve the district with honesty and integrity, free from any and all entangling alliances, and one who by political experience is well able to care for the district's interests.

During the World War, Senator Moran was active as a member of the Legal Advisory Board, and his natural ability as a speaker found large breadth of usefulness in his constant activity as a "four-minute" man. He received a certificate from the United States Government for services rendered during that trying time. Interested in every phase of community and general advance, Senator Moran stands among the leaders of wholesome thought and progressive sentiment, and the work that he is doing is a part of the beneficent and formative influences of today, which will count more and more definitely for the public welfare as the years pass on. He is a director of the Mansfield Credit Union, and fraternally is affiliated with Saint James Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, of Mansfield. He is one of the leading members of the Winthrop Club, and his religious affiliation is with the Congregational church.

Senator Moran married, in 1903, Jane E. Chase, of Mansfield, daughter of Albert and Elizabeth (Goward) Chase, her father a blacksmith of Mansfield, Massachusetts.

**WALTER PELLINGTON WINSOR**—Our national prosperity depends upon the solid business men of the country. The story of their success is our best text-book for the inspiration of the young. As president of the First National Bank of New Bedford, Walter P. Winsor held a position of importance in his community, one to which he had risen through a quarter of a century in the scarcely

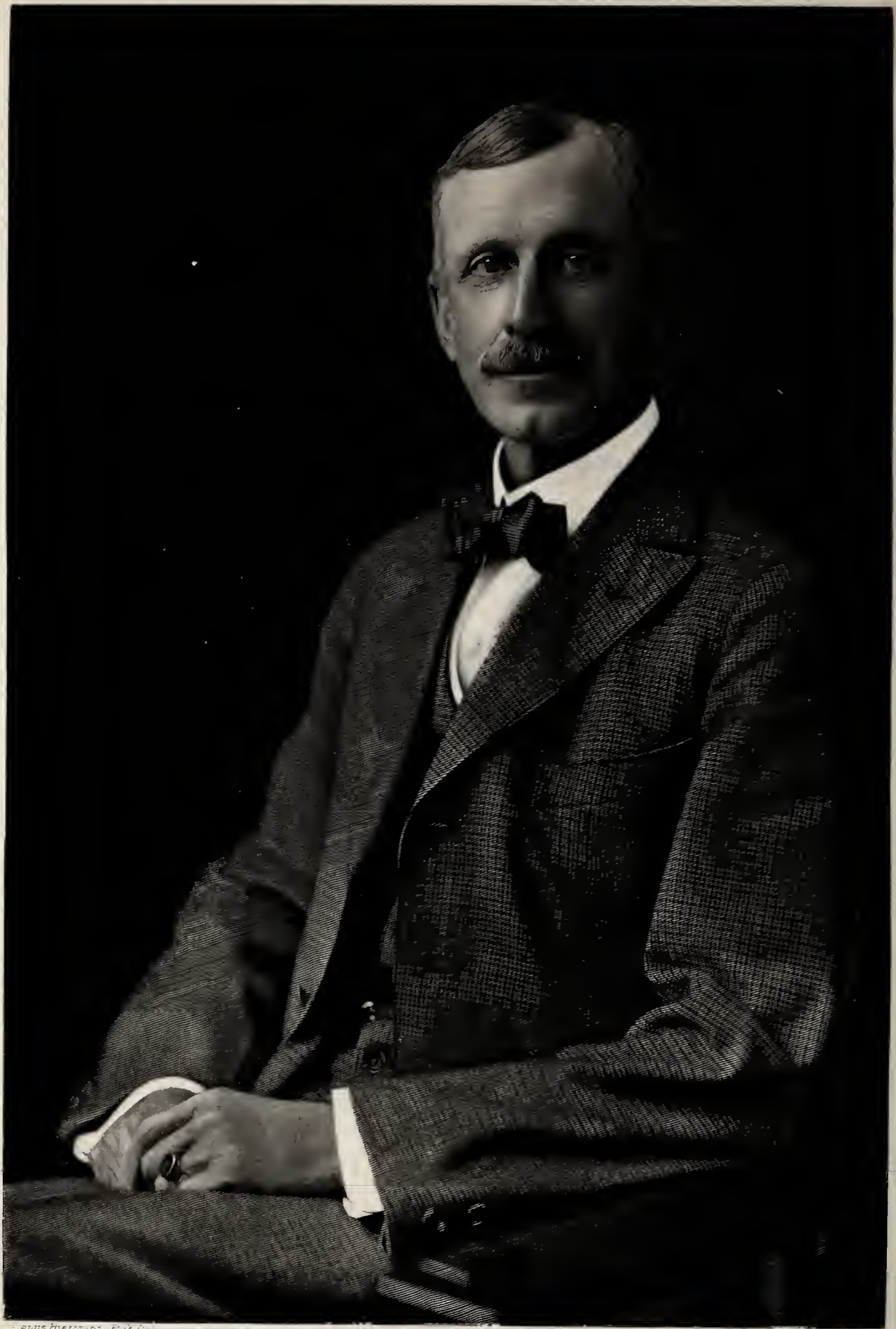
less responsible position of cashier. Mr. Winsor was a Fairhaven boy, belonging to a family of sea captains and mariners, his father, Captain Alexander Winsor, and his grandfather, Captain Zenas Winsor, were thoroughly representative of a class of hardy, upright men who would have graced any station in life.

The first Winsor of record in this branch is William Winsor, who is said to have come to Boston from Devonshire, England. The line of descent is traced through his son Samuel, to his son Peter. Peter Winsor was born August 21, 1761, at Duxbury, removed to Kingston, Massachusetts, and there died April 19, 1845. His son, Captain Zenas Winsor, was a sea captain of Duxbury, Massachusetts, whose eldest son was Captain Alexander Winsor, born in Duxbury, Massachusetts, August 11, 1810, who began his seafaring life at the age of fourteen years, making his first voyage on the vessel of which his father was captain. He continued as seaman and mate until his twenty-fifth year, when he was appointed to command the new ship "Molo." His first voyage as master was to Stockholm, Sweden, a voyage made in safety, but after delivering his ship over to the pilot, through some error in judgment or calculation, the "Molo" was wrecked upon Gotland, a large island in the Baltic Sea, belonging to Sweden, and both ship and cargo were lost. He returned to the United States feeling that his career as master was ended, but when he met the owner, Thatcher Magoun, in Boston, he was surprised and delighted to find that another ship, loaded and ready for sea, awaited him. With this ship, the "Timolean," he made many voyages, and in turn commanded the merchantmen (some of them clipper ships of renown) "Susan Drew," "Audubon," "Gertrude," "Hussar," "Sea Nymph," "Flying Cloud," "Sea Serpent," and "Herald of the Morning." The last ship, which he commanded until his retirement in 1872, was owned by Thatcher Magoun, who was also owner of the "Molo," the first ship he commanded. Captain Winsor belonged to that olden school of clipper ship masters of whom no finer ever tread a quarter deck. He married Sarah Pellington Allen, of Fairhaven, Massachusetts, and there made his home. They were the parents of: Alexander (2), born April 27, 1845; Walter Pellington, of further mention; Sarah Frances, born June 1, 1851, married Thomas B. Fuller.

Captain Alexander (2) Winsor was a commander of ships in the China trade, and for half a dozen years was captain of one of the largest steamships running between Hong-Kong and Shanghai, then for twenty-two years sailed under the flag of the China Merchant Steam Navigation Company. During the war between China and Japan his steamer was used by the government. In recognition of daring and gallant service in rescuing a fleet of Chinese steamers from a perilous situation during a naval battle, the Chinese government, through Li Hung Chang, prime minister, presented Captain Winsor with the emblem of the Chinese Double Dragon. He married Carrie I. Bailey, and died in Fairhaven, June 7, 1899.







—ewis historica. Fot. G.

Eng. by Finlay & Co.

*Pandanus. Linfep.*



Walter Pellington Winsor, second son of Captain Alexander (1) and Sarah Pellington (Allen) Winsor, was born in Fairhaven, Massachusetts, October 12, 1846, and died there December 8, 1911. He was educated in the public schools of Fairhaven, and in the John Boadle private school in New Bedford, continuing his studies until seventeen years of age. He then began as bookkeeper for a Broadway firm in New York City, but six months later returned to New Bedford, taking a position in a grocery store as bookkeeper. At the age of eighteen he became junior clerk in the First National Bank of New Bedford, and for two years retained that position. At the age of twenty he accepted a clerk's position with the Union Mutual Marine Insurance Company of New Bedford, continuing with that company eight years until 1874, having risen to the position of secretary-treasurer. The heavy loss of ships in the Arctic Ocean in 1871, and the lack of business through the death of the whaling industry, caused the company to liquidate in 1874. This brought Mr. Winsor to the next and by far the most important phase of his career, his connection with the First National Bank. He was elected cashier of that bank in June, 1874, and for twenty-five years he held that important post, gaining expert knowledge of the laws governing national finance, and the practical knowledge to make his learning effective. He won the confidence of the public, and the high regard of the bank officials to a degree which made him their unanimous choice for the presidency upon the death of Edward S. Taber, in March, 1899. In the executive position his long training and preëminent ability were demonstrated, and for twelve years until his death, December 8, 1911, he was the ideal financier and bank president.

Mr. Winsor was a Republican, and was one of the selectmen of Fairhaven for thirteen years. He was a member of the Unitarian church of Fairhaven, and was closely identified with its work and interests, to which he was very devoted. A close friend of the late Henry H. Rogers from boyhood, he represented Mr. Rogers in his Fairhaven undertakings. Upon the death of Mr. Rogers, he became one of the executors of the vast estate; was a director of the Virginian Railway Company, whose road was built by Mr. Rogers; vice-president of the Atlas Tack Company; director of the Wamsutta Mills; director of the Union Street Railway Company; and treasurer of the Millicent Library at Fairhaven. An estimate of the worth of Mr. Winsor's life appeared editorially in the New Bedford "Mercury," under date of December 11, 1911:

In the death of Walter P. Winsor there passes out one who has been for nearly forty years a prominent figure in the large financial affairs of this community. Mr. Winsor was a son of one of that splendid race of captains who controlled the destinies of the great clipper ships that were once the glory of the seas. From that inheritance a type of man was developed, of commanding figure and bearing, impressive in a physical sense of resourcefulness and reliability. Throughout his long business career no act of Winsor's was ever at variance with that first impression which his noble appearance inspired. His ability as an accomplished banker and financier was high, but the surpassing trait was his exalted honor and trustworthi-

ness, and his judicious conservation in handling the important affairs and the responsibilities entrusted to his management and care. That the late Henry H. Rogers selected him as an executor of his vast estates and interests indicates that one of the greatest and most discerning of the financiers of this age regarded Mr. Winsor's endowments as uncommon.

He was the executor of many estates and entrusted with many affairs of business outside of those in his regular line of duties as a banker, and he was faithful in all. Outside of his business career he lived the life of a gentleman of quiet and refined taste, one who loved flowers and simple pleasures and his home above all.

Of soul sincere,

In action faithful, and in honor clear,  
Who broke no promise, served no private end,  
Who gained no title and who lost no friend.

Mr. Winsor married Mary G. Bancroft, daughter of Joseph B. and Sylvia W. (Thwing) Bancroft, of Hopedale, Massachusetts. Mrs. Winsor survives her husband, continuing her residence at Fairhaven. Mr. and Mrs. Winsor were the parents of a daughter and three sons: 1. Walter Pellington (2), born April 20, 1879, died June 29, 1911; a graduate of Harvard University and Law School. 2. Anna Bancroft, born May 22, 1881; married Carl Clapp Shippee, and removed to Red Bank, New Jersey. Mr. Shippee is a member of the firm of Shippee & Rawson, brokers, of New York City, members of the New York Stock Exchange. Mr. and Mrs. Shippee are the parents of three sons: Winsor, born January 18, 1908; Robert, July 3, 1910; Donald, born December 1, 1915. 3. Bancroft, born June 26, 1889; graduate of the Fairhaven High School, and attended Worcester Polytechnic and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He married Beatrice Dunham, daughter of Crawford L. and Anna Dunham, of Fairhaven. They are the parents of two children: Sylvia, born in May, 1914, and Philip, born in November, 1915. Bancroft Winsor is now operating the Winsor farm at Acushnet, Massachusetts. 4. Allen Pellington, born February 12, 1892; graduated Harvard University, Bachelor of Arts, 1914; Harvard Medical School, Doctor of Medicine, 1918; has enlisted in United States Medical Corps. He married Vira Holcomb, daughter of Clarke W. Holcomb, of New Bedford, and resides in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**RANDALL NELSON DURFEE**—In 1660 Thomas Durfee migrated to America, settling in Rhode Island, and thus founding the family in this country. Randall Nelson Durfee was of the sixth generation of that family, tracing his descent through Walter Chaloner Durfee and his wife, Jane Frances Alden; Samuel Durfee and his wife, Hannah Anthony; Thomas Durfee and his wife, Patience Borden; Benjamin Durfee and his wife, Prudence Earle, to Thomas Durfee, the founder, and his first wife. Both Thomas Durfee and his son, Benjamin, acquired considerable land, so that Thomas Durfee, of the third generation, inherited a large landed estate, including the farm upon which he lived and died, and where all his children were born. That farm consisted of all that part of the present city of Fall River which lies north of Elm street and south of Turner street, extending from the shore



to Watuppa lake. He owned other large tracts, and lived in a manner befitting his wealth. It is interesting to note that he was the host to Lafayette at the time of his visit to this vicinity, and during the Revolution spent a large portion of his fortune to aid the cause of Independence. He died July 9, 1796, in his seventy-fifth year.

Walter Chaloner Durfee, of the fifth generation, a grandson of the above, was born February 24, 1816. He married Jane Frances Alden, a daughter of Cyrus and Mary Margaret (Jones) Alden, and a lineal descendant in the sixth generation from the "Mayflower" Pilgrims, John Alden and Priscilla Mullins. She was born in Roxbury, Massachusetts, October 4, 1821, moving at the age of five years, with her family, to Fall River, where she died, April 24, 1907, aged eighty-five years, six months, twenty days. She was a woman of most lovable character, her memory blessed. Walter Chaloner Durfee, until 1862, was teacher, clerk, bookkeeper, principal of a private evening school, manager of the Globe Print Works, and wholesale provision dealer. In August, 1862, he received from President Lincoln an appointment as collector of internal revenue for the First Massachusetts District, an office he held until 1866. He was again in business until 1871, when he was made treasurer of the Wampanoag Mills, serving in that office for twenty-one years, retiring from active business in 1892. At different times he was a trustee of the Border City Manufacturing Company, president of the Metacommet National Bank, trustee and president of the Metacommet National Bank, trustee and president of the Fall River Five Cents Saving Bank, director of the Wampanoag Mills and of the Fall River Mutual Insurance Company.

Walter C. Durfee was in early life a Lieutenant of militia and on active duty during the Dorr Rebellion. He was twice a member of the Legislature, alderman, assessor, fire warden, and from 1862 until his death in 1901, held a commission as justice of the peace. His earliest religious associations, through his mother, were with the Society of Friends, but in his youth he became a member of the Episcopal church, and in 1841 his name appeared in the list of the 115 members of the Church of the Ascension, which he later served as vestryman, superintendent of the Sunday school, parish treasurer (forty-five years), and senior warden (until his death), while for nearly sixty years he represented the parish in the Diocesan Convention. His married life covered a period of sixty years, his gentle wife surviving him more than five years. Walter Chaloner and Jane Frances (Alden) Durfee were the parents of eleven children, as follows: Frances Eudora, born December 28, 1841, died January 14, 1844; Eliza Chaloner, born January 31, 1845, died May 17, 1917; Walter Sherwood, born August 4, 1847, died August 21, 1848; Mary Hannah, born June 17, 1849, died September 16, 1853; Caroline Clinton, born July 22, 1852, married Edward O. Stanley; Jeannie Farquhar, born April 13, 1855, died February 25, 1871; Winthrop Carver, born

April 23, 1858, a graduate of Brown University and a manufacturing chemist, married Sylvia Whitney; Annie Marvel, born June 6, 1860, died January 28, 1921, married David F. Slade; Harriet Alden, born April 4, 1863; Randall Nelson, of further mention; Margaret Russell, born November 3, 1871, married Rev. J. E. Johnson.

Randall Nelson Durfee, of the sixth American generation, son of Walter Chaloner and Jane Frances (Alden) Durfee, was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, October 13, 1867, and died November 24, 1923. He completed his public school study with graduation from high school in 1884, was graduated at Phillips-Exeter Academy in 1885, and then entered Harvard University, graduating in the class of 1889 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. On leaving college he immediately entered upon a business career in the city of his birth, first serving as a clerk in the offices of the Wampanoag Mills, and later at the Stafford Mills. In 1894 he resigned his position as bookkeeper of the Stafford Mills and entered the office of Andrews & Horton, cotton brokers, remaining until June, 1895, when he engaged in the same business under his own name. Mr. Durfee remained a cotton broker until 1913, when he was elected treasurer of the Border City Manufacturing Company, which position he held at the time of his death. These years of hard and earnest work brought Randall N. Durfee success and a high reputation as a business man and a citizen. He aided in the development of many enterprises that have added to the wealth and importance of his city. He was a director in the First National Bank, the B. M. C. Durfee Trust Company, the Foster Spinning Company, Sagamore Manufacturing Company, and director and treasurer of the Border City Manufacturing Company, all of Fall River. He was also a trustee of the Fall River Five Cent Savings Bank. He was a director in the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and the Northwest Metals Corporation, both of Boston. He was a member of the cotton committee of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers during the war period, 1917-18; was an ex-treasurer of the Fall River Cotton Buyers' Association, and prominent in all departments of city life.

In politics Mr. Durfee was a Republican and served three years as councilman and alderman, being president of the Common Council in 1894, and elected alderman in 1895. He was a trustee of the Fall River Public Library from 1908 to 1923, and was one of the organizers and first president of the Fall River Historical Society. He succeeded his father as treasurer of the Church of the Ascension, serving in this position from 1890 to 1911, when he became junior warden of the parish, which office he held at the time of his death. As his father before him, Mr. Durfee was a delegate to the Diocesan Convention for many years, and it is interesting to note that the combined services of father and son in these offices covered a period of eighty-two years. He was a member of the Fall River



Country Club, the Rhode Island Country Club; the Episcopal Club, of Massachusetts; the Harvard Club, of Boston; the University Club, of New York; the Harvard Club, of New York; the Quequechan Club, of Fall River; the Bowling Green Club, of Fall River; and the Arkwright Club, of Boston. He was also a trustee of the B. M. C. Durfee High School, and a vice-president of the Children's Home.

Although Mr. Durfee's interests were many, his family and home always came first. His knowledge of the textile industry was thorough, and he gave freely of his time in an effort to better conditions in all phases of the cotton cloth industry. In 1919 the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers voted him their medal, presented annually to the man who in their opinion had done the most for the industry. It reads: "To Randall N. Durfee, Fall River, Massachusetts.. In recognition of his efforts to secure better methods for the financing of cotton. April 25, 1919. The National Association of Cotton Manufacturers." He often represented the cotton manufacturers of New England in conference at Washington. In fact his last public appearance was as their representative before the Federal Trade Commission at Washington in a cotton situation, the week before his death. He was a successful manufacturer and a man of the highest standing in the industry, always ready and willing to do his share along coöperative lines for the benefit of the industry. Mr. Durfee was local chairman for the Near East Relief and a zealous worker in all that pertained to it. Of him it was said by the State chairman: "No man in the State was more helpful." His pleasures were close to nature and he revelled in his beautiful garden, which gave delight to all.

Randall N. Durfee married, June 12, 1895, Abby Slade Brayton, born November 10, 1870, at Fall River, Massachusetts, daughter of Hezekiah A. and Caroline E. (Slade) Brayton. Mr. and Mrs. Durfee were the parents of four children: Randall Nelson, Jr., born March 13, 1897; Bradford Chaloner, born August 12, 1900; Caroline, born March 12, 1904; and Mary Brayton, born March 4, 1909.

**HORATIO HATHAWAY**—This name in early times was written as it was usually pronounced, Hodaway. According to Swift's "Barnstable" four of the name came over: Arthur, who settled in Marshfield, and afterward removed to Dartmouth; John and Joseph, of Taunton; and John, of Barnstable. J. D. Baldwin, in the N. E. H. and G. Register, Volume XXXII, page 92, has Arthur Hathaway coming to America in 1630 from one of the Welsh counties of Great Britain and settling in Plymouth and appearing to have remained there; gives him a son, Arthur, Jr., who he has marrying in Duxbury in November, 1652, Sarah Cook; there two of their children were born, and thence they removed to Dartmouth soon after 1655. It is with some of the descendants of Arthur Hathaway, the Dartmouth settler, this article is to deal. It should be borne in mind that Dartmouth originally was

about thirteen miles square and included the present towns of Dartmouth, Westport, New Bedford and Fairhaven. It was bought of the Indians in 1652. At the division of Dartmouth in 1787 New Bedford and Fairhaven formed the township or town of New Bedford and Fairhaven, bearing the name of New Bedford. They were divided into separate townships or towns in 1812. New Bedford, the metropolis, as it were, of Dartmouth, takes its date from 1761, when the first house east of the county road was built by John Lowden; nearly a hundred years prior to this, however, the settlement of Dartmouth had been made at Russell's Mills by the Russells, Ricketsons, Slocums, Smiths, and others; and at Acushnet on the east side of the river by the Popes, Tabers and Jenneys. It may be of interest, too, to note here that all of the original purchasers of Dartmouth were passengers in the "Mayflower," but no names of those who came in that vessel were among the early settlers there. Out of the thirty-six original purchasers of the town, its owners in 1652, perhaps only five or six became settlers. The lands were taken up mostly by Friends or Quakers, not particularly identified with the Puritans. This much for the early home country of the Hathaways.

(II) Arthur Hathaway, Jr., was in Marshfield in 1643, and in what is now Plympton in 1656. In 1660 he and Sergeant Shaw were appointed by the court of Plymouth to put those who had lands in Dartmouth in some way for the levying and paying of the tax levied upon Cushna. In 1664, on the incorporation of the town, he was on the grand inquest, and had previously been appointed to such. He was many times selectman, etc., from 1664 until 1684, his name disappearing from the records in 1688. He married, November 2, 1652, Sarah, daughter of John Cook, he of the "Mayflower" (married Sarah, daughter of Richard Warren, of the "Mayflower"). Their children were: John, born September 17, 1653; Sarah, born February 28, 1656; Thomas, of further mention; Jonathan, born in 1671; Mary, became the wife of ——— Hammond; Lydia, died June 23, 1714; Hannah, became the wife of ——— Cadman.

(III) Thomas Hathaway, the second son of Arthur Hathaway, Jr., was a Quaker. He died in 1748. He married Hepzibeth Starbuck, of Nantucket, daughter of Nathaniel and Mary (Coffin) Starbuck, the latter-named the great preacher. Mary (Coffin) Starbuck was the daughter of Tristram Coffin, and was married at seventeen years of age. She was accustomed to attend town meetings and took an active part, "was a Deborah among the people, for little of moment was done without her"; "usually began her remarks with some allusion to her husband as 'my husband thinks'." In 1701, during a religious visit of the celebrated English preacher, John Richardson, she was converted to Quakerism and became a "mighty instrument" through which large numbers were brought into the faith. Tristram Coffin was the son of Peter and Joan Coffin, born in Brayton, Devonshire, Eng-



land; married Dionis Stevens; immigrated in 1642 and lived at Salisbury, Haverhill and Salisbury, and in 1662 removed to Nantucket; was patriarch of the town. Children of Mr. and Mrs. Hathaway: Antipas, born October 5, 1698, married; September 13, 1729, Patience Church, of Freetown; Apphiah, born May 13, 1701, married, October 18, 1718, Adam Mott, son of Jacob Mott, of Portsmouth, Rhode Island; Pernal, born June 3, 1703, died October 6, 1715; Elizabeth, born October 18, 1706, married, June 27, 1727, John Clerk, of Rhode Island; Mary, born October 3, 1709, married, November 7, 1734, Thomas Kempton; Thomas, born December 5, 1711, married, January 25, 1750, Lois Taber; Nathaniel, born June 23, 1715; Hepzibeth, born March 18, 1718, married Samuel Wing, of Sandwich; Jethro, of further mention.

(IV) Captain Jethro Hathaway, son of Thomas Hathaway, was born in July, 1720, and died June 15, 1803. The Hathaways were extensive land-owners, derived from John Hathaway, who held a share in the eight hundred acre division. Their lands were situated on both sides of the Acushnet river, commencing about half way from New Bedford to Acushnet, Jethro Hathaway, as well as his father and grandfather, was a prominent man in the early history of Dartmouth, and the handwriting of the former, who was one of the committee on surveys from 1758 to 1773, is remarkably handsome and rarely equalled by the professors of penmanship at the present day. Captain Hathaway married, September 3, 1741, Hannah West, daughter of Stephen West. She died September 26, 1798. He married for his second wife Judith Howland. His children were: Elizabeth, born April 3, 1742; Stephen, of further mention; Clark, born October 21, 1747, married, June 17, 1770, Lois Akin.

(V) Stephen Hathaway, son of Captain Jethro Hathaway, was born February 28, 1743, and died November 4, 1825. On August 9, 1764, he married Abigail Smith, daughter of Humphrey and Mary (Wilcox) Smith, and to them were born fourteen children, viz: Humphrey, of further mention; Jethro, born September 13, 1766; Mary, born December 20, 1767, married, November 26, 1800, John Taber; Hannah, born June 22, 1769, married, June 11, 1791, Thomas Nye, Sr.; Thomas, born January 30, 1771, died in Saratoga in 1793; Rebecca, born August 18, 1772, married David Dillingham in 1792, and died in 1848; Abigail, born March 15, 1774, married, October 10, 1793, Weston Howland, and died in 1867; Stephen, born September 4, 1775, married Lydia Swain, daughter of Thaddeus and Ruth (Huzzy) Swain, and died July 1, 1822; Hepzibeth, born April 13, 1777, married, September 1, 1802, Pardon Howland; Alice, born November 13, 1779, married, September 24, 1800, Asa Russell, and died February 12, 1802; Nathaniel, born February 18, 1781, died at Charleston, October 26, 1802; Elizabeth, born December 9, 1782, married, November 10, 1805; Jireh Swift, Jr.; George, born in 1787, married Eliza Lyon; Silvia, born September 28, 1790, married, December 18, 1811, Gideon Nye.

(VI) Humphrey Hathaway, son of Stephen and Abigail (Smith) Hathaway, born April 13, 1765, died May 2, 1821. He married, December 27, 1787, Abigail Smith, daughter of George Smith. Children: Humphrey, born in 1790, died in 1805; Ezra, born in 1793, was drowned at sea in 1810; Thomas S., born in 1796, died in 1878; Nathaniel of further mention; Andrew, born in 1801, died in 1828, married Ruth Dillingham; Francis S., born in 1803, died in 1869; Alice, born in 1806, married, in 1826, Elisha Haskell, and died in 1880; Humphrey, born in 1808, died the same year. Of these, Francis S. and Thomas S. were prominent and rich merchants of New Bedford.

(VII) Nathaniel Hathaway, son of Humphrey and Abigail (Smith) Hathaway, was born in 1798, and died October 27, 1836, aged thirty-eight years. He was a graduate of Harvard College, of the class of 1818. He and his brothers engaged in the merchant trade; he was one of the substantial men of his day, as evidenced by the records of the various enterprises and institutions of the city. He married Anna Shoemaker, born in 1794, and died September 2, 1833, aged thirty-nine years. Children: Caroline, born in 1822, married, in 1841, Samuel Griffiths Morgan, and died in 1883; Richard, born in 1824, died in 1826; Elizabeth, born in 1827, married Joshua C. Stone, of Boston, and died in 1903; Francis, born in 1829, married, in 1854, Susan (Shoemaker) Paxson; Horatio, of further mention.

(VIII) Horatio Hathaway, son of Nathaniel and Anna (Shoemaker) Hathaway, was born May 19, 1831, in the old Hathaway homestead at the corner of Elm and Purchase streets. He prepared for college at Phillips Academy, Andover, and in 1846 entered Harvard University from which institution he was graduated four years later. A year or two after he went in the merchant ship "Horatio" on a voyage to China and was absent about two years. The firm of which Thomas S. Hathaway was a member was originally composed of the three brothers, Nathaniel, Thomas S. and Francis S. Hathaway. They were importers of tea and other eastern products and the business grew to be a successful one. Francis S. Hathaway spent much of his early life in China attending to the interests of the business there. He died in 1869 and bequeathed his property, considered a large one for those days, equally to his brother, Thomas S., and the heirs of his brother Nathaniel. Horatio Hathaway became possessed of a considerable fortune at the death of Thomas S. Hathaway, in 1878. Outside of Mr. Hathaway's connection with the tea business in his earlier years he had cares that the management of a large estate entailed which made him a very busy and active man. He was at one time appointed treasurer of the Potomaska Mills, but with his other duties found it to be too exacting and resigned after a brief trial.

Early in his career Mr. Hathaway took a lively interest in all questions which concerned the civic welfare of the city. His sound discretion, executive powers and broad culture gave him the confidence



of his fellow-citizens and he was sought for places of trust in the city government. In politics he was first a Whig, and when the Republican party was organized joined its ranks, and ever remained a most loyal and conservative adherent. Mr. Hathaway was a member of the city council of New Bedford in 1866-67-68-69-77 and president in 1868 and 1869. In this capacity his voice was always on the side of wise economy. In 1869 he was a candidate for mayor and was defeated by George B. Richmond.

Mr. Hathaway's opinions on all questions of finance and economy were always held as authority. He was president and a director of the Acushnet Mills and Hathaway Manufacturing Corporation. He was a director of the Mechanics' National Bank, the Potomska Mills and the Wamsutta Mills, and also a member of the board of investment of the Institution for Savings. He was also interested in other manufactories in New Bedford and Fall River. It was one of Mr. Hathaway's strongest personal characteristics that he would never accept any position which he had not sufficient time or opportunity to properly attend to, and he never attempted any work which was not thoroughly performed. He was known to be a man of most conservative opinions. His tastes were of marked simplicity and his manners were always unaffected and unpretentious, and courteous to a marked degree. He was preëminently a man of scrupulous honesty and in his business transactions preferred to appear to disadvantage rather than to resort to any kind of deception. He always maintained a high standard of morals and had the courage to live and act up to his convictions in the face of any opposition.

Mr. Hathaway was actively interested in the founding of St. Luke's Hospital, its president from its inception and a liberal contributor to its support until his death. He also gave liberally of his time and means to other charitable organizations of New Bedford. He was a constant attendant and member of Grace Church. He formerly attended the Unitarian church, but its modern liberalism was not in accord with his tastes. His benefactions to Grace Church and the parish house were most liberal. He was senior warden of the church for many years prior to his death.

In 1859 Mr. Hathaway married Ellen Rodman, daughter of Samuel Rodman. Children: Samuel Rodman, born in 1860, died in 1863; Ellen Rodman, born in 1862; Elizabeth, born in 1864, married, in 1899, Charles Osmyn Brewster, died in 1913, and their children were: Horatio Hathaway, born in 1900, and Elizabeth, born in 1903; Thomas Schuyler; Horatio, born in 1870, married, in 1898, Mabel Lovering, daughter of Henry M. Lovering, of Taunton, they the parents of one child, Lovering, born in 1898.

**JOHN T. COUGHLIN**—Among the early settlers of Irish birth in Fall River, Massachusetts, were Thomas Coughlin and Margaret Foley, both born in County Cork, Ireland, who, about 1840, left

Ireland and came to the United States, both then unmarried. They met at Fall River, Massachusetts, there were married, reared a family and passed the remainder of their lives, and died, honored and respected by all who knew them. Among their children was John T. Coughlin, a native son and an eminent lawyer, who has been honored by his townsmen with their highest endorsement, by being elected by their votes, to the office of chief executive, an office, it may be said, that he filled most capably and efficiently, so capably and efficiently that he was twice reëlected. As a lawyer, he has won high standing at the Bristol county bar, and serves a clientele both large and influential.

John T. Coughlin, son of Thomas and Margaret (Foley) Coughlin, was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, January 1, 1873, and there has spent the half-century of years which have since elapsed. He completed grade and high school courses of public school study, read law with Judge Hugo A. Dubuque, entered Boston University Law School, and received from that institution his LL.B. with the graduating class of 1900. The same month and year he was admitted to the Boston bar, and in September, 1900, to the Bristol county bar, and then began practice at Fall River. For a short time he was associated with Judge Hugo A. Dubuque, his former preceptor, but since sundering that connection he has practiced independently. He is one of the strong men of the Bristol county bar and has the respect and confidence of all who know him. For eight years, beginning with 1915, he has served as counsel to the Fall River Water Department and is also legal counsel to many firms and individuals.

From youth, Mr. Coughlin has been active in public affairs, affiliated with the Democratic party. In 1904 he was elected mayor of Fall River for a two years' term, was reëlected in 1906 and again in 1908, his entire service as mayor covering a period of six years, during which Fall River was wisely and efficiently governed in all departments, Mayor Coughlin surrounding himself with men of capacity, who administered their departments as he administered the executive function, wisely and well. Mr. Coughlin is a member of Fall River Lodge, No. 118, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; the Boston City Club (charter member); and his religious faith is that of a Roman Catholic.

#### **HENRY CARROLL WRIGHT MOSHER—**

When, in 1899, Henry C. W. Mosher came to the presidency of the Merchants' National Bank, New Bedford, Massachusetts, he was the fifth man to hold that responsible position, that bank having been chartered by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by act of June 18, 1825. The history of the institution during its ninety-three years of existence is entwined with the lives and doing of New Bedford's foremost citizens, its list of presidents beginning with that sterling citizen, John Avery Parker, who ruled from incorporation, in 1825, until 1854, he giving way to Charles R. Tucker;



1854-1876, Jonathan Bourne then succeeding, 1876-1889. The fourth president was Gilbert Allen, 1889-1899, he being succeeded in the latter year by Henry C. W. Mosher.

Mr. Mosher is a descendant of Ensign Mosher, who came to Boston, in 1636, and died at Newport, Rhode Island, in 1694. Of the origin of this Hugh Mosher the following is written:

Prior to the year 1600, there were in Manchester, and London, England, five brothers by the name of Mosher or Mosier—viz: William, John, Thomas, Stephen and George. Three of these brothers had sons named Hugh, who were distinguished men. 1. Hugh, son of John Mosher, went to India, where he amassed a fortune, and on his return to England was knighted and created a baron. He died in London, leaving no children. 2. Hugh, son of Thomas Mosher, sailed for New England in 1632, and finally settled at Falmouth, Maine. 3. Ensign Hugh Mosher, the ancestor of Henry C. W. Mosher, of New Bedford, Massachusetts, to whom this review is inscribed.

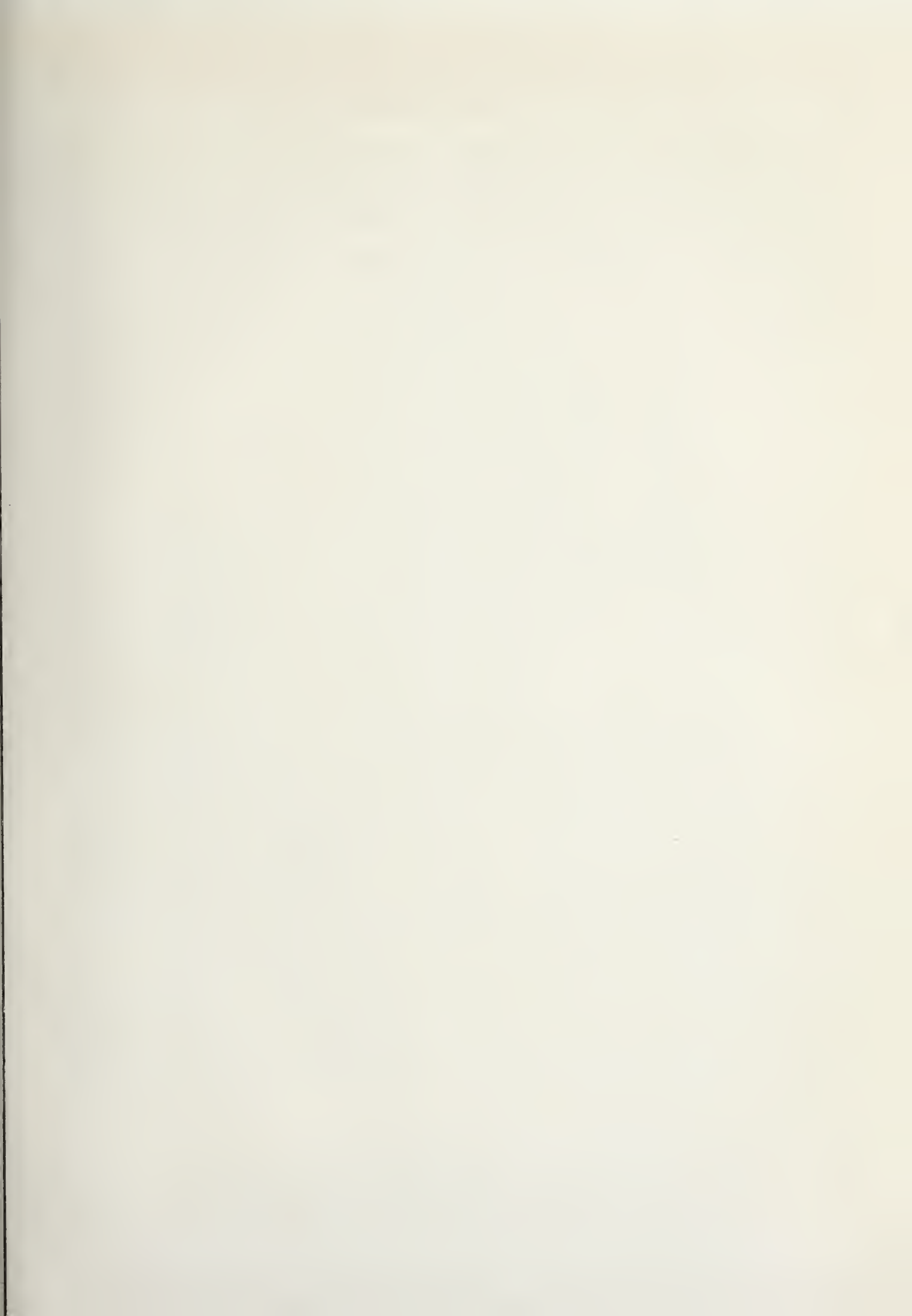
Rev. and Ensign Mosher, son of Stephen Mosher, of Manchester, England, arrived in Boston in 1636, and settled first at Salem, going thence to Rhode Island, with his friend, Roger Williams, the early Apostle of religious freedom, who was pastor of the Salem Church before settling the colony in Rhode Island, at Providence, Hugh Mosher aiding him. He married Lydia Maxon or Masam, they leaving sons: Hugh (2), John, Nicholas, Joseph, Daniel and James. The line of descent is through Rev. Hugh (2) Mosher, born in 1633, died in 1713, who married (first) Rebecca Harndel. Rev. Hugh (2) and Rebecca (Harndel) Mosher were the parents of: Nicholas, John, Joseph, Mary, James, Daniel and Rebecca, the line continuing through the fifth son, Daniel. Daniel Mosher was born in 1678, and died in 1751. He married, in 1704, Elizabeth Edwards, and they were the parents of eleven children; the next in direct line being their son, Benjamin Mosher, born April 19, 1706, who was succeeded by his son, George Mosher, born October 11, 1740, married, about 1765, Meribah Brightman, born May 11, 1746, died June 29, 1823, being killed in a runaway while being driven by her son, Bryce. George and Meribah (Brightman) Mosher were the parents of a large family including a son, Bryce Mosher, born February 28, 1777, died March 9, 1863. He married (first) in December, 1797, Peace Gifford, born March 31, 1780, died November 1, 1840, the mother of twelve children. He married (second) Rozilla Decker, they the parents of five children.

Jonathan Mosher, eldest son and second child of Bryce Mosher and his first wife, Peace (Gifford) Mosher, was born in Westport, Massachusetts, October 4, 1799, died December 19, 1890. He was a man of high intelligence, self-educated and well-read. For many years he was toll-keeper of the old New Bedford and Fairhaven toll bridge before it was made free, and later bought a farm in Fair-

haven upon which he lived to a good old age, honored and respected. He was an ardent Abolitionist, aiding in the operation of the "Underground Railroad" by which many slaves escaped to Canada. He married (first) in June, 1824, Catherine Soule, born February 25, 1793, died February 6, 1825, without issue. He married (second) August 7, 1825, Abigail Soule, born September 18, 1804, died April 26, 1874, sister of his first wife, both tracing descent to a "Mayflower" ancestor, George Soule. He married (third) in 1875, Susan Starkey. Jonathan Mosher and his second wife, Abigail (Soule) Mosher, were the parents of six sons and five daughters: 1. James E., born October 12, 1828, died November 30, 1829. 2. James Edwin, born August 25, 1830, believed to be living in Australia. 3. William Coe, born December 19, 1832, whereabouts unknown. 4. Angeline Caroline, born March 9, 1835, died November 4, 1836. 5. Charles Edward Everett, born May 8, 1836, died November 19, 1915; he married, July 22, 1875, Mary Elizabeth Briggs, born May 28, 1852; they had two children: Charlotte Shirley, born May 15, 1876, married Walter L. Weeden, born November 28, 1875, and had a son, William Nye Weeden, born July 31, 1904; Brycia Gladys, born August 11, 1886, married Thomas W. Williams, born July 26, 1886. 6. Abbie Catherine, born May 8, 1838, died November 7, 1910; married, July 6, 1865, Charles A. Johnson, who died August 31, 1889, without issue. 7. Mary Ellen, born March 22, 1840, died February 28, 1841. 8. Mary Everline, born November 19, 1841, died July 31, 1915. 9. Cyrus Burleigh, born November 25, 1843, died April 26, 1859. 10. Henry Carroll Wright, of further mention. 11. Eliza Caroline, born October 16, 1847, died August 10, 1848.

Henry Carroll Wright Mosher, youngest son and tenth child of Jonathan Mosher and his second wife, Abigail (Soule) Mosher, and the last survivor of that family, was born in New Bedford, Massachusetts, August 12, 1845, and there spent the first seven years of his life. He then was taken by his parents to the farm they had purchased. He was educated in the Fairhaven public schools, finishing with graduation from high school, his brother, Charles Edward Everett, a well known educator of his day, being one of his instructors and lending the weight of his influence in keeping the lad in school. Later he pursued courses of study in Comer's Commercial College, in Boston, beginning his business career as a clerk with Wood, Brightman & Company, tinsmiths, remaining with that firm for six years, 1864-1870, becoming a clerk in the employ of the Merchants' National Bank, of New Bedford, in August, 1870. After three years in clerical position he was advanced to the post of teller, remaining at that desk twelve years, then in 1885 becoming assistant cashier with Peleg C. Howland, who had been cashier for twenty-seven years, 1858-1885. One month later Mr. Howland died, and Mr. Mosher became cashier. He continued the able, efficient cashier for about fourteen years,







*William S. Greene*



1885-1899, then early in the year 1899, the death of Gilbert Allen, who had been president of the bank for ten years, caused a vacancy in the executive office which was filled by the board of directors electing Mr. Mosher as his successor and the bank's fifth president. At the time of his elevation to the presidency Mr. Mosher had been in the bank's employ for twenty-nine years, 1870-1899. His rise from clerk to president was rapid, and in his course he held every position upon merit, and rose to a higher one through natural selection. That he filled a post for thirty-two years that was honored by that strong and eminent citizen, James B. Congdon, the first cashier of the bank, and another filled by another eminent son of New Bedford, John Avery Parker, the bank's first president, is a guarantee of high efficiency and sterling character in itself, while a perusal of the names of the presidents and cashiers of the bank rivals a list of men who have figured prominently in New Bedford history for the past century and more—men who not less than the institution with which they were connected have been important factors in New Bedford's growth, prosperity and greatness.

In addition to his bank responsibilities, Mr. Mosher is a director of the Kilburn Mill, and the Grinnell Mill, both of New Bedford, the Borden City Mill, of Fall River, Massachusetts; New Bedford and Agawam Finishing Company, of East Wareham, Massachusetts, and has other interests of importance. He is a Republican in politics, active in its interest, but as a citizen never holding nor desiring public office. He is a member of Star of the East Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; Adoniram Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; New Bedford Council, Royal and Select Masters; Sutton Commandery, Knights Templar. Now the veteran banker of over half a century, and past life's summit, Mr. Mosher takes no advantage of the years he owns, but devotes the business hours of the day to the duties as bank executive, and is the strong, virile, level-headed man of affairs. His business life has been spent with the Merchants' National, and the name of the institution and the executive are synonymous in New Bedford.

Mr. Mosher married, June 17, 1869, Evelyn E. Gerrish, of Fairhaven, Massachusetts, and they are the parents of two children: 1. Grace Matilda, born April 23, 1870, married, June 2, 1896, James H. Coffin, born March 31, 1865. 2. Harry Gerrish, born February 25, 1873, engaged in the life insurance business in New York City; he married, in October, 1896, Sarah A. Dunham, born September 1, 1878, their only child being Gwendolyn Elizabeth, born March 30, 1898, she of the tenth American generation of the family, founded by Rev. and Ensign Hugh Mosher.

**WILLIAM STEDMAN GREENE, M. C.**—In the year 1875 William S. Greene, of Fall River, Massachusetts, was elected a member of the Common Council of Fall River, and during the near half-century of years that has since intervened his

record of public service has been practically continuous, city, State, and Nation having the benefit of his public spirit and devotion to the cause of the public good. His Congressional career began in 1898, and he has been a member of every Congress of the United States from the Fifty-fifth (1898-99) to the Sixty-seventh (1922-23). He is perhaps best known nationally for his connection with the Ship Subsidy Bill, of which he was the "father," and which he ably defended on the floor of the House during the session of the Sixty-seventh Congress, his speech delivered on November 23, 1922, being a masterly presentation of the case of the bill. That it failed of passage was not due to faults of the bill nor to weakness on the part of its friends, but to a political situation in Congress most deplorable. In closing his speech, after withstanding most ably a storm of questions, Mr. Greene said: "Those who are against this measure and have no substitute or alternative of their own are against the dearest interests of all America."

Mr. Greene is of the ninth generation of the family founded in New England by Dr. John Greene, a surgeon, born on his father's estate at Bowbridge Hill, Parish of Gillingham, Dorsetshire, England, son of Richard and Mary (Hooker) Greene, grandson of Richard Greene, and great-grandson of Robert Greene, all residents of Bowbridge Hill in their day. Surgeon John Greene, born about 1590, married at Salisbury, the Shiretown of Wilts, in St. Thomas' Church, November 4, 1619, Joanne Tattershall, and with his wife and six children (all of whom were baptized in the church in which their parents were married) sailed on the ship "James" for New England, arriving in Boston, June 3, 1635. He settled at Salem, where he was associated with Roger Williams and became the medical practitioner in Providence, Rhode Island, and was one of the eleven men baptized by Roger Williams, these twelve forming the membership of the First Baptist Church on the American Continent. Surgeon Greene bought land, 700 acres, upon which he lived and which remained in the family until sold by his great-great-grandchildren, one hundred and forty years later. He was a prominent man in the colony, took active part in public affairs, and held office until the summer preceeding his death in January, 1659. His children were all by his first wife, who died soon after the removal to Rhode Island. The line of descent is thus traced to William Stedman Greene, of Fall River, Massachusetts; Surgeon John Greene and his wife, Joanne Tattershall; their son, James Greene (a man of note), and his wife, Deliverance Potter; their son, James (2) Greene, and his wife, Mary Fones; their son, Fones Greene, and his wife, Rebecca Tibbetts; their son, Job Greene, and his wife, Mercy Greene; their son, Job (2) Greene, and his wife, Mercy Dexter; their son, William Fones Greene, and his wife, Abby Sheldon; their son, Chester Washington Greene, and his wife, Abby Stone Stedman; and their son, William Stedman Greene, of Fall River.



Potowomut was the home of James Greene, of the second generation, there his great-grandson, General Nathanael Greene, of Revolutionary fame, was born, and there descendants resided for two centuries. James Greene was a member of the General Court of Rhode Island, as was his son, James (2) and his grandson, Fones Greene. Rhode Island was the home of the first seven generations, but Chester Washington Greene, of the eight generation, married Abby Stone Stedman, daughter of Judge Bial Stedman, of Belpre, Washington county, Ohio, and for a time was a resident of Tremont, Illinois, returning to Massachusetts in 1844 and locating at Fall River, where he was a prosperous business man and one time postmaster. He died August 24, 1896, leaving a daughter, Anna Ormsbee Greene, who married Eliphalet S. Brown, and a son, William Stedman Greene, of this review.

William Stedman Greene, only son of Chester Washington and Abby Stone (Stedman) Greene, was born in Tremont, Tazewell county, Illinois, April 28, 1841, but in 1844 Fall River, Massachusetts, became the family home, and there he attended the public schools until fifteen years of age, then began his business career as clerk in a millinery and fancy goods store. In March, 1858, he entered the employ of John P. Slade, insurance, continuing with him until May, 1865. For a year he was unsettled in residence, living in Providence, Buffalo, and New York City, but in all these cities continued in the insurance field of activity. In 1866 he returned to Fall River, and became associated with his father, and, as Greene & Son, they conducted an extensive auction, insurance and real estate business, William S. Greene continuing the business after the death of his father in 1896 until the present, 1923, real estate being his specialty.

A Republican in politics, Mr. Greene, from early life, took an interest and active part in public affairs and always has zealously supported party candidates and principles. In the fall of 1875 he was chosen to represent the Fifth Ward of Fall River in the Common Council, and held that office through successive reelections for four years, being president of council during the last three years of his term. He was also, in 1876, chairman of the Republican City Committee. In 1879 the Republican City Convention nominated Mr. Greene for mayor, by acclamation, his election following in November by less than 500 majority. He conducted the affairs of the city economically yet efficiently, vetoing several appropriation bills, one of which council passed over his veto. During his term the ordinance was passed creating the office of superintendent of public buildings; inspector of buildings; establishing a fire district regulating building construction throughout the city, and creating the office of city engineer. He was reelected mayor in 1881 by nearly triple the majority of his first election, but he resigned the office in March, 1881, having received from President Garfield appointment as postmaster of Fall River, an office he held for four years, assuming the duties of the office April 15, 1881. In 1880 Mr. Greene was an alternate delegate to the National Republican Convention which nomi-

nated James A. Garfield for President. In 1886, upon the expiration of his term as postmaster, he was again elected mayor of Fall River, and became known all over the State as a clean, fearless and efficient executive. In 1887 and 1888 he was defeated for reelection, and in 1888 Governor Ames appointed him State superintendent of prisons, an office he administered most zealously and efficiently for one year, was one year under Governor Brocate, and two and a half years under Governor Russell, a Democrat. Mr. Greene was the unsuccessful candidate for mayor of Fall River in 1894, but in 1895 was elected by a majority of 734, reelected in 1896 by 1514 majority, and in 1897 by 3121, and declined renomination in 1898. He was appointed postmaster of Fall River in 1898 by President McKinley, and on April 1, 1898, entered upon the duties of that office, only to resign them May 31, 1898, having been elected to represent the Thirteenth Massachusetts District in the National House of Representatives, to fill out an unexpired term of John Simpkins, deceased, that district, now the Fifteenth, including in Bristol county the cities of Fall River, Taunton and Attleboro, and the towns of Berkeley, Dighton, Freetown, Mansfield, South Attleboro, Norton, Raynham, Rehoboth, Seekonk, Somerset, Swansea, and Westport; and in Plymouth county, the town of Lakeville, the population of the district in 1920 being 217,307. He took his seat in the Fifty-fifth Congress, was reelected and served in the Fifty-sixth, Fifty-seventh, Fifty-eighth, Fifty-ninth, Sixtieth, Sixty-first, Sixty-second, Sixty-third, Sixty-fourth, Sixty-fifth, Sixty-sixth and Sixty-seventh Congresses, serving in these bodies on important regular and special committees, and in the Sixty-seventh Congress was chairman of Merchant Marine and Fisheries, that committee reporting favorably the Ship Subsidy Bill, which Mr. Greene fathered and pressed for passage.

Possibly influenced by his knowledge of postal affairs gained during his years of service as postmaster, Congressman Greene was the champion of several important bills affecting the post office department. This called forth in June, 1906, the following resolution from a branch of the National Association of Letter Carriers of New Bedford, Massachusetts, the following resolutions, which had been unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS: Our Congressman, the Honorable William S. Greene, having done an immeasurable amount of work with the Post Office Department to have the new census accepted and to have the carrier service re-classified, and in having the compensation of our mounted carriers raised to equal that of the same branch of the civil service in other cities; it is therefore

*Resolved*, That as he has always shown a deep interest in everything pertaining to the letter carriers, both in and out of Congress, that we, the members of Branch No. 18, National Association of Letter Carriers, do hereby express our gratification and tender to him our heartiest thanks for the interest he has always taken in our welfare; and

*Resolved*, That we extend to our honored friend our wishes for his long continuance in the responsible place he has so honorably filled in the service of his country.

Mr. Greene is a member of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church; member and a past master of Mount Hope Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; is a companion of the Royal Arch; a cryptic Mason, and a sir knight of the Commandery; also an Odd Fellow, a Knight of Pythias, and a Forester.



Mr. Greene married, March 8, 1865, Mary E. White, daughter of Pardon A. and Elizabeth W. (Spink) White, of Fall River. Mr. and Mrs. Greene are the parents of three children: Mabel Lawton, Chester White, and Foster Ragnier. These children are of the tenth generation of the family founded in New England by Surgeon John Greene, in 1635.

**HERBERT FRANCIS SHERWOOD, A. M.**—A man of wide experience and great versatility, Mr. Sherwood has won prominence as a writer and lecturer on immigration and sociology; as a special writer to newspapers and magazines; as a war worker and an after the war worker in adjusting post-war problems, and finally in Chamber of Commerce work, in which he has been eminently successful both in organization and management. He came to Fall River in January, 1923, as manager of the Chamber of Commerce of that city.

The Sherwoods of England, a name perpetuated for all time by Sherwood Forest and Robin Hood, trace in the thirteenth century to the de Shirewode family, and from that ancient English line came Thomas Sherwood, one of the early settlers of Fairfield, Connecticut. Through intermarriage of descendants of Governor William Bradford, Elder William Brewster, John Alden and Richard Warren with Sherwoods, a line of "Mayflower" ancestry is traced from Herbert F. Sherwood to those of the Plymouth Colony in 1620.

Herbert Francis Sherwood was born at West Cornwall, Litchfield county, Connecticut, son of John Cotter and Ellen Clarissa (Hart) Sherwood, his father a commission merchant long established in New York City, and a descendant of Thomas Sherwood of Fairfield, Connecticut. His mother was a daughter of Nathan Hart, of Cornwall, Connecticut, a descendant of Stephen Hart, one of the settlers of Hartford, Connecticut, and of John Whittlesey, one of the founders of Saybrook, Connecticut. Herbert F. Sherwood spent his boyhood days chiefly in Washington, Connecticut, where he attended the famous Gunnery School. He is yet connected with that school through its alumni association, of which he is now (1923) president. His early manhood years found him a resident of Stamford, Connecticut, where John C. Sherwood had established the family home after retiring from his New York business.

Herbert F. Sherwood was early attracted to journalism as a profession, and after serving an apprenticeship on the Stamford "Advocate" entered the employ of the New York "Tribune" as a staff member. That was in 1899 and for sixteen years he was connected with the "Tribune," for a large part of that time as a special writer. During the first two years on the "Tribune" staff he was ship news reporter and during that time became interested in the problems involved in the development of the port of New York. His familiar knowledge of the harbor and its problems caused his selection by the Board of Education of New York City as a lecturer, and he spoke to more than two hundred audiences in

every part of the city, his theme "New York Harbor." His experiences led him to take a deep interest in the subject of immigration, and its importance as one of his country's fundamental problems was forced upon him. In 1907, in the pursuit of knowledge on the subject, he made a European tour with the United States Immigration Commission and visited Italy, Austria, Croatia, Hungary, Galicia, Germany and Belgium.

While abroad, Mr. Sherwood wrote a series of circular letters, regarding conditions, to a group of persons which included President Eliot, of Harvard, Archbishop Ireland, Bishop Potter, of New York, Jacob I. Schiff and others. Upon his return he began contributing to the "Outlook," "Independent," "Review of Reviews," "Collier's" and other periodicals on social topics, chiefly immigration. One of these articles, published in the "Outlook" in January, 1908, following the great exodus of immigrants in 1907, is considered to have been the first to show that (prior to the war) the flow of American immigration was regulated by the law of supply and demand, and that the figures of the eastward and westward movement formed an index of the American labor market. In 1908 he made a study of the Italian colonies of the chief cities of Connecticut for use at a Congress held in Rome that year.

Becoming more definitely interested in social questions, and desiring ultimately to devote his time to them in a constructive way, he took post-graduate work at Columbia University, and studied at the Bureau of Municipal Research of New York City. In 1911, following a lecture on Immigration, a subject in which he came to be a recognized authority, he received from Dickinson College the honorary degree of Master of Arts.

Mr. Sherwood left the staff of the "Tribune" in 1915 with the expectation of taking up special community welfare organization work. The same summer, in New York, he was associated with the first movement for the expansion of the American Red Cross from the small organization headed by Clara Barton. Following participation in the first and only Naval Civilian Cruise in August of that year, he joined the staff of the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures as assistant secretary. He remained associated with this organization in this capacity for more than two years, and during the six months prior to the signing of the armistice was also a member of the staff of the United States Committee on Public Information, in charge of the examination of motion pictures intended for export, with the object of preventing improper propaganda from going abroad.

A few days after war was declared in 1917, he joined the "Shippan" Company of the Connecticut State Guard in Stamford, Connecticut, where he was living, as it was evident that his age would not admit him to the military service of the country in any other capacity. He served for nearly two years, also acted as publicity director in all of the most important war drives in Stamford, and was



secretary and a member of the executive committee of the citizen body formed to promote a readjustment of workers in war industries in Stamford.

He wrote for publication in the New York "Tribune" in the spring of 1918 an article which described a movement headed by Dr. Thomas Masaryk, afterward president of Czecho-Slovakia, for the development of a group of small nations extending from the Adriatic to the Baltic to serve as a bulwark between Russia and Germany. This brought out the fact, at the time little recognized, that a very strong feeling existed among the Slavs in the Austro-Hungarian Empire against the House of Hapsburg which could be capitalized in favor of the cause of the Allies. This article, without the knowledge of Mr. Sherwood, was circulated throughout the press of the United States. Later, on the arrival of Dr. Masaryk in this country, he wrote another full page article for the "Tribune" concerning Dr. Masaryk, recognized abroad as one of the great statesmen of the world but little known in this country, although his wife was an American. This led to a personal acquaintance with Dr. Masaryk.

During the latter part of the war and for a year afterward, Mr. Sherwood was the American correspondent of the "New Europe," a magazine published in London by a group of distinguished statesmen and publicists representing all the Allied countries, for the purpose of promoting a better Europe following the war. In his articles Mr. Sherwood, having learned through his earlier contact with Europe and Europeans, something about their general lack of knowledge of America, sought to clarify their views regarding the psychology and institutions of America as a guide to a better understanding of the problems of readjustment.

Following the close of the war, Mr. Sherwood took up the activities for which he had been fitting himself. Long possessed of the desire to put into practice some of the things he had been describing as a writer (and believing in the need of the capitalization of the spirit of coöperation and service developed through the war) he entered Chamber of Commerce work. He became attached to the staff of the American City Bureau of New York, an organization developed to help Chambers of Commerce to serve their communities in a larger way and to provide training for executives for such organizations. During the three years he was attached to the staff of the Bureau he assisted in the reorganization of Chambers in the cities of Lowell, Lawrence, Northampton, Holyoke and Pittsfield, Massachusetts; Pawtucket, Rhode Island; New London, Connecticut; Newburgh, New York; the Broadway Association of New York City; Camden and Perth Amboy, New Jersey; Donora, Pennsylvania; Frederick, Maryland; Clarksburg, West Virginia; Americus, Georgia; Knoxville, Tennessee; Topeka, Kansas; Hamilton, Ontario; and Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. He was instructor in Publicity and Community Advertising at the summer schools for commercial organization executives at Eagles Mere,

Pennsylvania, in 1919, and at the University of Wisconsin in 1920, being the author of manuals on these subjects.

In July, 1921, desiring to settle down after three years of traveling, he accepted the managership of the Chamber of Commerce at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, a city which appealed to him as a New Englander. He reorganized this Chamber, making it the largest in New Hampshire, and organized a State Chamber of Commerce body. He was chosen general secretary of the Portsmouth Tercentenary celebration. In January, 1923, he became manager of the Fall River Chamber of Commerce, his present connection. In addition to the activities already mentioned, Mr. Sherwood was for several years prior to and during the war president of the Civic Federation of Stamford, Connecticut, in the course of which time he carried through a survey of the city government which resulted in the installment of a much needed accounting system. He was the organizer and for six years a member of the board of governors of the New York Public Lecture Corps of the Board of Education of New York. For many years he has been a member of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York, and of the Stamford Historical Society, of which he is an officer and of whose building fund he is a trustee. He was chairman of the memorials committee in connection with the celebration of the Two Hundred and Seventy-fifth anniversary of the settlement of Stamford, and is president of the Department of Sociology of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, of which he was one of the organizers.

He is the author of booklets on Long Island and Southern New England, and editor of guides to New York City and the Hudson River and to Plymouth, Massachusetts, published by Rand, McNally & Company, and to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, issued by the Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce. Among reprints which have been made of his articles are the following: "The Ebb and Flow of the Immigration Tide," from the "Review of Reviews;" "The Children of the Land," from the "Outlook;" "Negotiating by Habit," from the "Outlook;" and "Facing Municipal Problems from a New Angle," from the "New York Tribune." He was the author of a series of articles on New York Harbor published in "Freight," and of a series of legends of Southwestern Connecticut published in the "Tribune." At the time of the fiftieth anniversary of the Civil War, he wrote an account of the chief events of that war for the "Tribune," which ran through the Sunday issue of that paper for nine months. He has lectured in different parts of the country on immigration problems, and has made a special collection of pictures illustrating his own New England. In his studies he has given special attention to New England conditions and future and to the psychology of cities. For several years he was a member of the Social Service Committee of the General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Connecticut.



**JUDGE EDWARD F. HANIFY, A. B., LL. B., LL. D.**—One of the most noteworthy figures in legal circles of Bristol county, Massachusetts, today is Judge Edward F. Hanify, whose position as judge of the Second District Court of Bristol county has given him wide influence, both in public life and among the people of his native city of Fall River, Massachusetts. His service is the more significant to society for his deep interest in the ethics of his profession, as generally applied, as well as from the professional viewpoint, and his work for the juvenile delinquents who come under his jurisdiction has been for years one of the salutary forces in the progress of corrective effort in Massachusetts.

Judge Hanify is a son of Michael Hanify, who was born in Ireland and came to the United States with his parents as a youth, the family settling in Fall River, Massachusetts. He was a seafaring man for some forty or fifty years, and served in various capacities for the Fall River Line, plying between Fall River and New York City. His death, which occurred in the year 1911, at the age of seventy years, removed from the shipping circles of this city one of the pioneers in steamboat traffic of a day now gone by. The mother, Elizabeth (Brennan) Hanify, was also born in Ireland and came to this country in her youth, her parents becoming residents of Fall River. She died in the year 1886 at the age of forty-two years.

Judge Edward F. Hanify was born in Fall River, February 2, 1881. His education was begun in the local public schools, and he is a graduate of the B. M. C. Durfee High School in the class of 1900. Entering Holy Cross College at Worcester, Massachusetts, for his course in the liberal arts, he was graduated in the class of 1904 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, then entered Harvard University School of Law, from which he was graduated in the class of 1907 with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. The young man passed his bar examinations in the year 1906, in the second year of his law course, and began his practice shortly after his graduation. He was later, in the year 1919, honored by Holy Cross College, which conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws. Judge Hanify began practice as a partner of Thomas F. Higgins under the firm name of Higgins & Hanify, and this partnership existed until 1911. Mr. Higgins was elected mayor of Fall River in the year 1910, and the following year Judge Hanify was elected to the office of city solicitor, and, on account of his important public services and the time demanded in their performance, the partnership was dissolved. After serving eighteen months, or thereabouts, as city solicitor, Judge Hanify was appointed by Governor Eugene Foss as judge of the Second District Court of Bristol county. This was considered a great honor, as it placed Judge Hanify on the bench as one of the youngest judges ever appointed in the State of Massachusetts. Judge Hanify has made a remarkable record on the bench and one which is commended universally, for in his handling of juvenile delinquents he has done far more than corrective work. On the statutes of the State of

Massachusetts is a law to the effect that boys and girls between the ages of seven and seventeen shall not be treated as criminals, even in cases of serious misdemeanors, and Judge Hanify, in upholding and applying this law, has given many young people a new start in life, which under other circumstances might have been denied them. This re-instatement of thoughtless youth into the paths of rectitude has given many serious-minded and useful citizens to the State of Massachusetts, who look back to the fatherly advice and guidance of Judge Hanify as the determining influence in their effort toward a worthy life. Judge Hanify has lectured before many audiences on this subject in various parts of the State of Massachusetts, thereby securing the co-operation of parents, educators and the people generally in this beautiful and commendable work of moral salvation and social reinstatement, and his activities along this line are considered the most noteworthy achievement of his entire career thus far on the bench.

Outside a close devotion to his judicial duties, Judge Hanify in his spare moments takes a deep interest in public matters, generally. He is a member of the board of trustees of the Fall River Public Library and likewise of the Citizens' Savings Bank; has the distinction of being the first honorary member of the Fall River Rotary Club; is a member of Fall River Lodge, No. 118, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; and of Fall River Council, No. 86, Knights of Columbus. His religious affiliation is with the Roman Catholic Church.

Judge Hanify married, in June, 1910, Mary E. Brodtkorb, of Fall River, and they are the parents of three sons: Edward B., Francis, James.

**CHARLES JARVIS HOLMES**—The history of the Holmes family traces far back into the past, the English ancestor being credited with coming to England with William the Conqueror. Being of ancient family and handsome conduct, he was noticed by William the Conqueror himself, and made a captain in his army, and having performed his part to the satisfaction of the Conqueror, he was rewarded by him with an estate in Yorkshire. The family is traced to the eleventh century and down through nineteen recorded generations in England to William Holmes, the ancestor of the Fall River family, now represented by Charles L. Holmes, now and since 1906 treasurer of the Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank, grandson of Charles Jarvis (1) Holmes, great-grandson of Abraham and Bethiah (Nye) Holmes, all of whom will have extended mention in this review. The line of descent in brief is thus traced:

(I) William Holmes, of the nineteenth recorded generation of his family, was born in Yorkshire, England, January 3, 1592, and prior to 1636 came to New England, settled in Scituate, and became a freeman of Plymouth Colony in 1658. He died in Marshfield, September 9, 1678, aged eighty-six. His widow, Elizabeth, died in Marshfield, February 17, 1689, in her eighty-sixth year.

(II) Abraham Holmes, son of William Holmes, was born in 1640, lived in Marshfield, Massachusetts,



until prior to 1698, when he moved to Rochester, where he was town treasurer in 1698, and there he died, April 17, 1722. He married (first) Elizabeth Arnold, daughter of Rev. Samuel Arnold, who was pastor of the church at Marshfield, 1659-1693.

(III) Experience Holmes, son of Abraham and Elizabeth (Arnold) Holmes, was born in Marshfield, Massachusetts, in 1681, and settled just within the line of Dartmouth, in what was afterward Fairhaven, where he died in 1754. He married Patience Nichols.

(IV) Experience (2) Holmes, son of Experience and Patience (Nichols) Holmes, was born in Rochester, Massachusetts, June 9, 1716, and married, on December 13, 1737, Hannah Sampson, daughter of Abraham Sampson. After his mother's second marriage he left home, but after his own marriage, occupied the homestead of his father at Rochester. Later he owned and occupied a farm in the Third Parish of Rochester, where he died March 14, 1794, aged seventy-eight. He is described as a man of small size, never weighing more than 135 pounds, but so agile, quick, and wiry, that few men could best him in a wrestling match. He was also an expert marksman and fond of hunting. He was strong in Bible argument, and quick-witted, with a ready gift for repartee. In 1762 he joined the Baptist church.

(V) Abraham Holmes, son of Experience (2) and Hannah (Sampson) Holmes, was born June 9, 1754, in Rochester, Massachusetts, and there died September 7, 1839, after a remarkable and successful life as a member of the Plymouth and Bristol county bars. He was regarded as a learned and skilled lawyer, and was a most interesting speaker, his addresses abounding in anecdote, wit, and humor. At the age of eighty he addressed the Bristol county bar, in session at New Bedford, on "The Rise and Progress of the Profession in Massachusetts," and in it gave sketches of the early lawyers. Abraham Holmes was admitted to the bar of Plymouth county in April, 1800, being then forty-six years of age, and not regularly educated for the profession of law. He had previously been president of the Court of Sessions, and when he applied for admission to the bar, the members voted to admit him in consideration of "his respectable official character, learning, and abilities, on condition that he study three months in some attorney's office." He continued in practice until August, 1835, when, reaching eighty-one years of age, he retired, having met with a considerable degree of success, and gained honorable standing. After his death the members of the bar of Bristol, Plymouth, and Barnstable counties, at a meeting held in Plymouth, October 25, 1839, paid respectful tribute to his talents, learning, and character, and adopted a resolution expressing a high sense of his personal worth as a man, "whose mind was enriched with various learning; whose memory was a repository of the most valuable reminiscences; whose legal attainments gave him high professional eminence; and whose social qualities were an ornament of the circle of friendship during a long life of integrity and usefulness." He was a member of the

executive council of Massachusetts in May, 1821 and 1822, and in May, 1822-1823, under Governor Brooks.

Abraham Holmes married, December 26, 1776, Bethiah Nye, born February 16, 1759, died December 14, 1832, daughter of Ichabod and Bethiah (Blackwell) Nye. Children: Bathsheba, died unmarried; Rosalinda, married Anselm Bassett; George B. N., married Elizabeth Valentine; and Charles Jarvis, of whom further.

(VI) Charles Jarvis Holmes, youngest son of Abraham and Bethiah (Nye) Holmes, was born May 9, 1790, in Rochester, Massachusetts, died at Fall River, Massachusetts, May 13, 1859, aged sixty-nine, and was buried in the same cemetery in Rochester in which had been laid at eternal rest, his father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and great-great-grandfather—five generations. He was a man of ardent friendships, genial disposition, and a high sense of honor. His intellectual powers were strong and well cultivated, and he read carefully the English classics, was a thorough student of the law, and in writing his own epitaph, he closed with these words: "By profession a lawyer; by practice a peacemaker."

Charles J. Holmes studied law in his father's office in Rochester, and was admitted to the Plymouth bar in 1812. He practiced his profession in Rochester for a quarter of a century, and became both prominent and influential. In 1838 he moved to Taunton, but in 1842, receiving appointment to the office of collector of customs at the port of Fall River, he moved to that city, where he filled at various times other offices of importance—master-of-chancery, commissioner of bankruptcy, etc.

In politics he was a Republican, ardent and sanguine, strong in his convictions and strong in support of his party. He represented Rochester in the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1816-17-19-20-24-26-27-31-32; was State Senator from Plymouth county in 1829 and 1830; a member of the Massachusetts executive council in 1835, and presidential elector in 1836. He was appointed by President John Tyler to the office of collector of customs, and all his life he held the respect and esteem of his fellowmen.

Charles J. Holmes married (first) October 17, 1814, Cynthia Crocker, who died August 17, 1828, aged forty. He married (second) in 1830, Louisa Haskell, who died October 11, 1846, aged forty-four, daughter of Ebenezer and Bathsheba (Crocker) Haskell. Charles J. Holmes by his second marriage had two children: Emma Louisa and Charles Jarvis (2). Emma Louisa Holmes was born November 4, 1830, and died March 31, 1881. She married, on August 20, 1856, Daniel Stillwell, of Fall River, born February 11, 1825, died December 20, 1878, leaving two daughters: Louisa Holmes Stillwell, who married John H. C. Nevius, and Sarah Richmond Stillwell, who died in February, 1889.

(VII) Charles Jarvis (2) Holmes, only son of Charles Jarvis and Louisa (Haskell) Holmes, was born in Rochester, Massachusetts, March 4, 1834, and died at Fall River, Massachusetts, February 26, 1906, in his seventy-second year. In the passing of Mr. Holmes, Fall River lost one of its prominent



citizens; the business community, a strong, progressive force; and the religious world, a bright and shining example. Of ancient Colonial ancestry traced to the Plymouth Colony, Mr. Holmes possessed the strong body, the vigorous intellect, and the high moral and religious spirit of his ancestry, and from youthful manhood was identified with the business, social, and official life of the city to which he came in early boyhood.

Early in his career he became associated with the Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank, and for fifty years he safeguarded the interests of the multitude of people who made that institution the medium through which their savings were conserved. His years were more than three score and ten, and his breadth of mind and strength of character fully met the heavy demands of business and civic life. As banker, treasurer, cashier, alderman, member of city and State governments, and a leader in church work, there was scarcely a life in the city which had not in some measure felt the stimulus of his energy, his devotion, and his faith.

Mr. Holmes was in his fifth year when the family moved to Taunton, and in his ninth year when he moved to Fall River, the city that was his home until the close of his long and honorable life. He was educated in the public schools of Fall River, and was a member of the first class formed in the Fall River High School, whence he was graduated, class of 1853. He was then nineteen years of age, and immediately after graduation he entered the employ of the Massasoit Bank of Fall River. That was the beginning of his long career as a financier, a business in which he so rapidly rose in rank that in 1855, at the age of twenty-one, he was elected treasurer of the Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank, incorporated April 10, 1855, an office he held until his passing in 1906, when he was succeeded by his son, Charles L. Holmes, father and son having been guardians of the bank treasury ever since its founding, sixty-eight years ago. The same year (1855) Mr. Holmes was appointed cashier of the Wamsutta Bank, which in 1864 was reorganized as the Second National Bank, of Fall River. He was also president of the King Philip Mills, president of the Sagamore Mill, and a director of the Border City Mills, all great textile manufactories of Fall River, he being a man of the highest rank as financier and business man.

Hardly less influential was he in the official life of city and State, his terms of service covering a long period of time in many different positions. In 1873 he represented Fall River in the Massachusetts House of Representatives, and both in that body and later (1877-78) in the State Senate, he rendered active, useful service. In the Senate he was chairman of the committee on banking. For two years he was a member of the Fall River Board of Aldermen; for sixteen years he was a member of the school committee, and during that time exerted a strong influence upon the city's educational affairs. He was a trustee of the Fall River Public Library for thirty years; chairman of the Civil Service Commission for the Fall River district; member of the

board of overseers of the poor; and chairman of the Massachusetts State Committee of Associated Savings Banks, a committee on which he held a leading position for thirty years. He held not only the offices named, but also for a long time served in municipal positions requiring financial sagacity and integrity. In politics he was a Republican.

Mr. Holmes was a member and senior deacon of the Central Congregational Church. His position in the community was that of a progressive business man, a respected citizen, and a coöperator in all movements started for the improvement of the condition of the people. On financial and municipal affairs, Mr. Holmes was considered one of the best authorities in the city, and his opinion was frequently sought on difficult questions. His long experience in official and business life, and his high standing as man and citizen, qualified him to rank among the representative men of the commonwealth, and no man was more highly esteemed for his fine qualities of mind and heart.

Charles J. (2) Holmes married, on May 4, 1858, at Fall River, Mary A. Remington, daughter of Joshua and Joanna Remington, and they were the parents of three children: Mary L., born May 15, 1859; Anna C., born March 5, 1861; and Charles L., a sketch of whom follows.

**CHARLES LINCOLN HOLMES**—Knowing but one allegiance throughout his business career, Charles Lincoln Holmes began at the bottom of the ladder and rose until he is today treasurer of the banking concern whose doors he entered at the close of his school years. An only son of Charles Jarvis (2) and Mary A. (Remington) Holmes (see preceding sketch), he was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, May 21, 1866, and there resided, an honored and influential business man and financier, treasurer of the Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank, of which his honored father was the first treasurer. He was educated in the public schools of the city of his birth, finishing with graduation from high school, class of 1885. He began his business career the same year by becoming an employee of the Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank, and during the thirty-eight years which have since elapsed, he has known no other allegiance in the business world. He received several promotions during the twenty-one years, 1885-1906, that he was privileged to associate in the banking business with Charles Jarvis Holmes, the first treasurer, and when, in 1906, that strong pillar of support to the bank and an important figure in its development was called hence, Charles L. Holmes was chosen his successor, an office he has now most ably filled for seventeen years. The bank, founded in 1855, has had a healthy growth, its total resources at the close of business, November 25, 1922, totalling \$12,783,741.73, with George S. Davol, president.

Mr. Holmes is a member of the executive committee of the Associated Savings Bank of Massachusetts; chairman of the Fall River School Committee; a director of the King Philip Mills, and secretary of its board of directors; and a member of the



Quequechan Club and Fall River Country Club. In politics he is a Republican, and in his church preference, a Congregationalist.

Charles L. Holmes married, on March 10, 1897, Anna S. Pratt, of Brooklyn, daughter of Judge Calvin E. and Susan E. (Ruggles) Pratt, her father a judge of the Supreme Court of New York, sitting in New York City for many years in the Appellate Division. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes are the parents of three children: Charles Calvin, associated with textile manufacturing; Stanford, deceased; and Lincoln, now (1923) a junior in high school at Fall River.

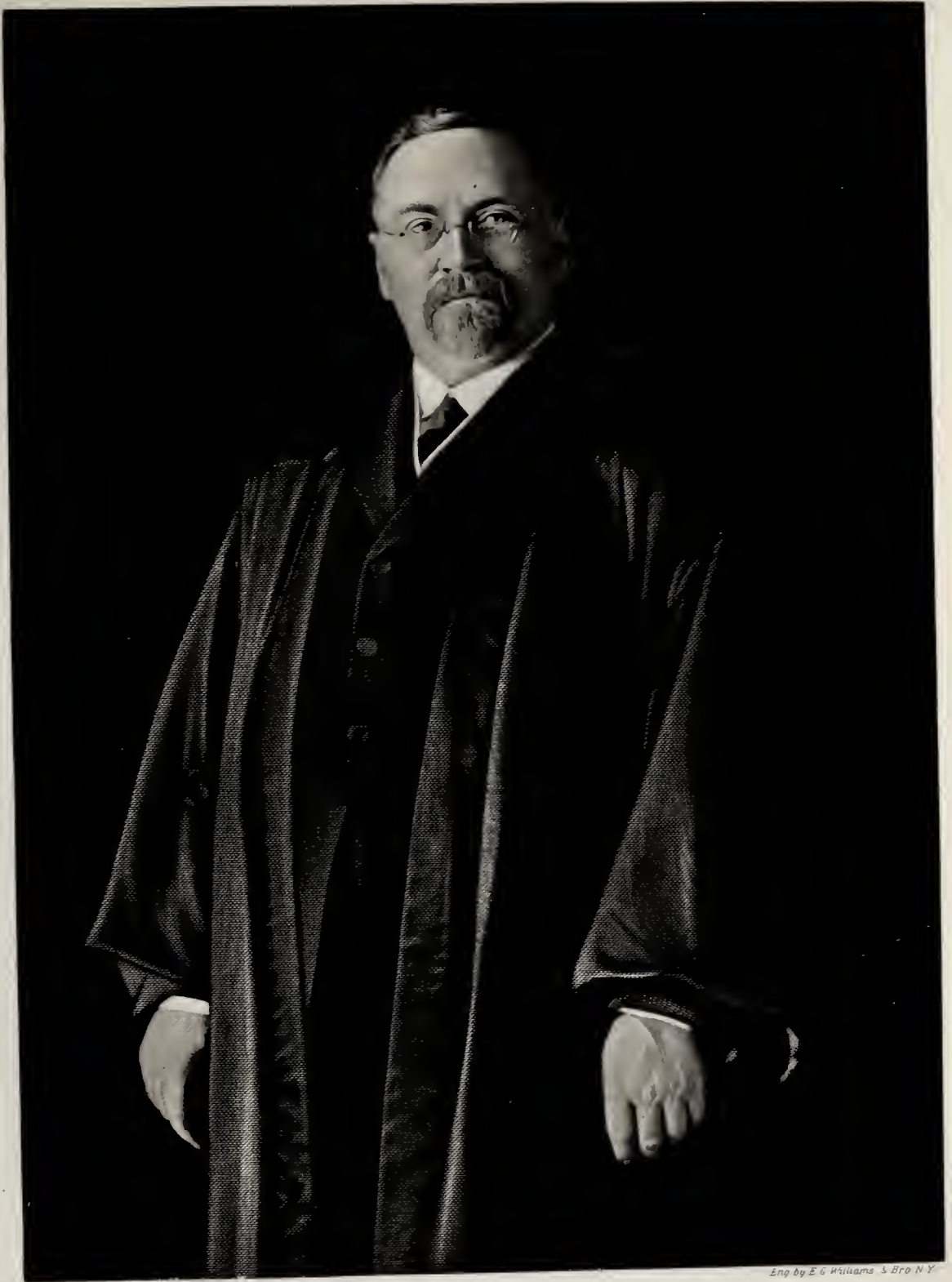
**JUDGE HUGO ADELARD DUBUQUE**—The formative forces of the mind bear greater significance to the public advance than the visible activities which carry forward the industrial and commercial progress and prosperity of the people. In this realm which lies back of all progress, Judge Dubuque, who for many years has been one of the foremost legal lights of Fall River, Massachusetts, has contributed largely to civic, State and national advance. A native of Canada, Judge Dubuque is an American by choice, rather than by the accident of birth, and his progressive spirit and high mental attainments have meant much to the land of his adoption, in which he is still one of the actively significant figures of the day. He is a son of Moses and Esther (Matthews) Dubuque, both natives of the Province of Quebec. The father was one of the pioneers in the development of Oregon when that State was still a territory, and for some years he was engaged in mining operations in that region. He was also active in farming and general mercantile affairs, and his death occurred in St. Louis, Missouri, when he was on his return East, after an extended stay in Oregon, he routing his tour through various interesting sections of the United States. Cut down suddenly at a comparatively early age, a life of broad usefulness was ended.

Hugo Adelard Dubuque was born at Cavignac, Province of Quebec, Canada, November 4, 1859. His education included a course at St. Hyacinthe College at St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, from which he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He came to the United States when still a youth of about eighteen years, and for one year was active in a shoe store at Troy, New York. Then coming on to Fall River, Massachusetts, he secured employment in a drug store, but the plan of his life was by no means so narrow as to keep him permanently in a subordinate position. His evenings and spare moments were devoted to the study of law, and during the years 1876 and 1877 he attended the Boston University School of Law, receiving his degree of Bachelor of Laws from that institution in the class of 1877. He was admitted to the bar in November of the same year, and shortly thereafter entered upon the practice of his chosen profession in Fall River. Mr. Dubuque's subsequent record as lawyer, judge and legislator revealed the careful and exhaustive attention which he gave to these early years of study and preparation. His practice placed him in a prominent position when he was still a very

young man, and he was noted as one of the largely successful and eminently promising men of that period. Early becoming a citizen of his adopted country, he took a deep interest and a constructive part in the affairs of the community and the State, and in the year 1889 was elected to the Massachusetts Legislature. Subsequent reëlections returned him to that body, and his record in the legislative halls is still a matter of interest and comment among those who keep in touch with public affairs. Mr. Dubuque drafted the act creating the registry of deeds in Fall River, and he drafted the act also which brought about the building of the Superior Court House on North Main street in this city, in which the Fall River district registry of deeds was properly housed. He was the author of a bill which passed Legislature and has since been known as the Dubuque Law, providing for the collection of claims due labor and the necessities of life. This act has been copied in many States. In 1900 he was elected city solicitor of Fall River, and this office he filled ably and well for a period of ten years. In 1911 he was appointed by Governor Foss as Associate Justice of the Superior Court of Bristol county, which important position he has held continuously since. In his record on the bench, Judge Dubuque has displayed in marked degree those qualities of fair-mindedness and breadth of experience which count so far in upholding the dignity of the law and at the same time in making the courts a regenerative, as well as punitive institution. His keen interest in every human creature is clearly evident to all who come under his jurisdiction and he has done much to encourage high aspirations and lofty ideals among those who have been brought before him.

Judge Dubuque's brilliant command of the French language has brought him many times into public notice in a manner which has not only done credit to himself, but has cemented international relations and promoted patriotic spirit. While still in the Legislature, he attended the International Postal Congress which met in Boston and was wholly unexpectedly called upon to welcome the assembly to the city of Boston in the French language. His graceful manner and genuine kindness of spirit he conveyed to the visiting delegates from other nations in such a way as to represent most happily the true cordiality of the American people. When still solicitor of Fall River, he delivered many lectures in both the French and English languages on historical and literary subjects which did much to encourage local interest in public affairs and loyalty to the early traditions of the city. On the occasion of the unveiling of the statue of Samuel D. Champlain, at Champlain, New York, Judge Dubuque delivered the dedicatory address which was the leading feature of the exercises. His frequent appearances on occasions of this kind, and his apt and fitting addresses, led to his being invited to officiate as interpreter of Marshal Joffre's address when the distinguished French officer visited Boston in 1917, Judge Dubuque repeating his speech in English before the Massachusetts Legislature and their assembled guests.





Lewis Historical Pub Co

Eng by E C Williams S Bro N Y

Hugo A. Dubuque





Judge Dubuque is a facile writer, as well as an able speaker, and one of his really valuable works is a treatise on the Fall River Indian Reservation, tracing the history of Fall River to early Colonial days. This work includes also a short sketch regarding Indian customs and descriptions of the first deeds given by the Indians to white men, also chapters attesting the legal status of the Indians who survived to live under the government of the old Bay State. Of fully as great technical importance, but perhaps not of equal popular interest, is Judge Dubuque's work on the "Duty of a Judge as a Constitutional Adviser," which appeared in the "American Law Review" in the issue of May, 1890. This great and exhaustive paper was subsequently published in pamphlet form and is cited in all authoritative works on constitutional law, also by the United States Supreme Court. When Judge Dubuque was city solicitor the people of Fall River tendered to him a graceful but heartfelt honor in naming one of the fine school buildings which was erected at that time, the Dubuque School. He has kept in close touch with local interests in every branch of advance. For a number of years past he has been trustee of the Fall River Public Library, and he was one of the founders and is still a leading figure in the Franco-American Historical Society of Boston. His more personal interests include membership in the Boston City Club and the Quequechan and Calumet clubs of Fall River. He is a member of the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church.

Judge Dubuque married Anna M. Coughlin, of Fall River, who died in 1916, leaving three daughters: Twins, Pauline, now the wife of Joseph M. Rockett, of Fall River, and Helene, now the wife of Dr. Albert E. Perron, of Fall River; and Marie, a graduate of Wellesley College, the wife of Captain Maurice F. Devine, an attorney-at-law at Manchester, New Hampshire.

**COLONEL BRADFORD D. DAVOL**—The life of Colonel Bradford D. Davol was one of broad activity in the industrial and civic life of Fall River, Massachusetts, and of lasting significance to the city. Gifted with large ability as an executive, and also endowed with a deep appreciation of the problems and struggles of others, he was not only the man of large affairs, but the friend of all, and countless numbers of people recall a word or hand-clasp, and in many cases more material assistance through which they have gained courage in times of stress and won through difficulties to success or high achievement.

A son of one of the foremost cotton manufacturers of New England a generation or two ago, and descended through his maternal line from Thomas Dartec, of early Colonial fame, Colonel Davol was an American, of and for America, and in business, in public life, and as a progressive citizen, the welfare of the people and the good of the city, the commonwealth and the nation were to him matters of far deeper import and far greater significance than any personal consideration.

Colonel Davol was a son of Stephen and Sarah

F. (Chase) Davol, his father a native of Fall River, his mother of Portsmouth, Rhode Island. Stephen Davol was one of the pioneer mill men of Fall River, his energies and executive ability forming a constructive force in the textile industry in mid-nineteenth century progress. He died in Fall River in the year 1888 at the advanced age of eighty years.

Bradford D. Davol was born at Portsmouth, Rhode Island, March 30, 1841, but his lifetime was almost wholly spent in the city of Fall River. His education was begun in the public schools of this city, and he was graduated from the Fall River High School at the age of eighteen years. He then became associated with the Pocasset Mills of Fall River, one of the most important concerns in New England in the manufacture of cotton textiles, and for thirty-three years he was identified with this concern. Beginning in a subordinate capacity and familiarizing himself with the industry through experience in the various departments, he rose from the position of clerk to that of bookkeeper, and eventually was made treasurer of the Pocasset Manufacturing Company, in which organization his father had previously filled the same largely responsible office. Upon his election to the office of treasurer of this concern, Colonel Davol was made executive head of the mills, and through his knowledge of the industry and his large executive ability he ably supplemented his father's work in the striking development of this plant, which in its earlier years operated less than 2,000 spindles, but under his fostering care and able management was expanded to a point where 60,000 spindles were in constant operation.

In his later years Colonel Davol became widely affiliated with the world of finance, also becoming a stockholder and leading executive in many of the industrial concerns of this section. At the time of his death he was president of the Barnard Manufacturing Company, president of the Mechanics Mill, also of the Union Belt Company. He was president of the Fall River Savings Bank and the Fall River Coöperative Bank, was a director of the Massasoit-Pocasset Bank, a director of the Troy Mills, the Pocasset Mills, and the Flint Mills, also a director of the Fall River Manufacturers' Mutual Insurance Company. In former years further affiliations had commanded his attention for he held directorships in the Fall River Bleachery, the Barnaby Mills and the old Dighton, Somerset, Swansea Street Railway Company, prior to its absorption by the Eastern Massachusetts Street Railway Company. During the period of its existence he was also treasurer of the Fall River Automatic Telephone Company. Several years ago, Colonel Davol resigned from active official connection with the Pocasset Mills, being affiliated only with the manufacturing world through his extensive holdings of stock in the textile industry and among the banking organizations of this city, and devoted his time to the care of his personal interests until his death. From boyhood his civic loyalty and enthusiastic patriotism were among the strongest influences of his life. Prior to the Civil War he was a member of Com-



pany K, an unattached company of the Massachusetts State Guard, and upon President Lincoln's call for ninety day volunteers in 1864, this company responded as a unit. The company was sworn into the Federal service, and Colonel Davol retained his commission at that time as second lieutenant. He served with the company until its discharge, and thereafter re-entered the State Guard, in which from time to time he was promoted, rising to first lieutenant and then to captain, then major, then lieutenant-colonel, and eventually to colonel of his regiment, thus winning his rank in a military organization of his own State. In political affairs also Colonel Davol's influence was felt as a beneficent and progressive force. He served for some years as a member of the Common Council of Fall River, and on June 17, 1897, received the appointment from Governor Wolcott as chairman of the Fall River Board of Police. Filling this responsible office for a term of three years, he was re-appointed by Governor W. Murray Crane in 1900 for a further term of three years, and his wise and far-sighted attention to the duties of this office did much for the improvement and increased efficiency of the force. For three years he served as a member of the Board of Aldermen, and in all his public endeavors his self-forgetfulness and earnest effort for civic advance were fruitful of much good. Fraternally Colonel Davol was affiliated with King Philip Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; Fall River Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; and Godfrey de Bouillon Commandery, Knights Templar. Deeply interested in all that pertained to the preservation of local, State and National landmarks or records, he was for years a member of the Old Colony Historical Society of Taunton, Massachusetts, also of the Fall River Historical Society, and to the furtherance of the work of these organizations he was a frequent contributor. Colonel Davol's death came at a time when the community was shocked by other losses in the leading ranks of financial and industrial executives. A leading daily paper of Fall River commented editorially upon the importance of the group of men whom the hand of death cut down within a few days and further expressed the general appreciation of Colonel Davol's genuine worth in fitting periods, following his death, which occurred on April 22, 1923:

The reaper has been startlingly busy among Fall River's leading men in recent days. Indeed, one must go far back in our files to find the record of the death of three such men in three successive business days as have filled the columns of the press in the last three issues. The deaths of Judge Morton, followed by the sudden death of John S. Brayton, were succeeded by that of Colonel Bradford D. Davol, with but the briefest interval.

The story of his influential life in this city is told in some detail in another column:

Colonel Davol was son and successor to one of Fall River's leading cotton manufacturers, and his life was largely spent in the conduct and promotion of the same industry. He was a man of integrity, of discernment, and of good business judgment. He grew up in the business of cotton manufacture, learning it from the bottom, until in due time he reached its summit, in which leading place in the Pocasset Mill he continued many years, at the same time co-operating in the

management of several newer enterprises in cotton manufacture. In some of them he retained his directorship until the end of his days, giving them the advantage of his business sagacity, as a counselor.

Colonel Davol felt that the municipal government required the attention of leading business men and was worthy of it. This conviction he carried into practice, being himself a member of the Common Council and the president of the board, when we had two houses, and afterwards representing his ward as a member of the Board of Aldermen, thereby setting a good example to other leaders in the business life of the city.

This conviction of his made him willing to take the responsibility of the chairmanship of the Board of Police and License, succeeding Colonel Thomas J. Borden, who was a member of the first board after the law, still in force, was established. Colonel Davol held the place for two successive terms of three years, and helped to keep it up to the high ideal with which it was established, so rendering his city an important service in this connection. \* \* \* His death removes a man held in universal respect.

Colonel Davol married, December 1, 1875, Cornelia W. Lincoln, who was born in Boston, Massachusetts, a daughter of Minor S. and Mary A. (Borden) Lincoln, of that city. Mrs. Davol died in 1921. Colonel and Mrs. Davol shared many benevolences of which the world knew little, and their especial interest was the aiding of young people to secure higher education. Childless themselves, they took the deepest interest in all young people, and many needy students, who would otherwise have been compelled to abandon their higher education, have been able to complete their studies, winning prominence in professional and business careers, owe their success to the assistance of Colonel Davol and his gracious wife. The Davol home was a center of culture and wide hospitality. Both Colonel and Mrs. Davol were active workers in the Central Congregational Church and generous supporters of its many benevolences. The annals of Fall River record few more helpful or devoted lives than those of Colonel Bradford D. and Cornelia W. (Lincoln) Davol.

**JOSEPH LYMAN SWEET**—It would be difficult to find in any New England city a man whose interests and activities are more closely interwoven with the daily life of the people than is seen in the career of Joseph Lyman Sweet of Attleboro, Massachusetts. Coming of one of the oldest and most noteworthy families of Bristol county in direct line, a family, too, affiliated by marriage with many of the most honored names of New England history, Mr. Sweet has made his own life one of broadest usefulness to the city of which he has now been a resident for more than half a century. Not only as a successful business executive, giving employment to many, and contributing to the prosperity of the civic body, but as a worthy and forward-looking citizen, bearing a part in many unrewarded lines of endeavor, Mr. Sweet has made his name of significance to the community. He is held in the highest esteem in every circle and is welcomed as a co-worker and associate in all progressive effort, a place of leadership being accorded him whenever he can be persuaded to accept it.

Joseph Lyman Sweet was born at West Mansfield, Massachusetts, February 7, 1852, and is a son of



Elbridge and Dorothy (Suloway) Sweet. His father, who was born at Mansfield, was engaged throughout his active lifetime in agricultural pursuits, also operated a grain mill at West Mansfield until his death, which occurred in February, 1876, at a comparatively early age. The mother was born at Enfield, New Hampshire, and survived her husband for nearly a score of years, passing away in the year 1885. As a young lad Joseph Lyman Sweet attended the Mansfield public schools, then later entered the Stoughtonham Institute at Sharon, Massachusetts, where he received a broadly practical preparation for his career. From his earliest business experience Mr. Sweet held executive responsibility, first engaging in the jobbing of jewelry in an independent way. With this experience, through which he had gained a comprehensive grasp of the jewelry business, both from the point of view of the producer and the retail trade, Mr. Sweet associated himself with the firm of the R. F. Simmons Company, manufacturing jewelers, in the year 1875. He is now in the forty-ninth year of continuous activity as an executive of this concern, and from the beginning has been a definite force for the constructive advance and permanent prosperity of the firm. The history of this great industrial organization is more than a record of mere achievement, for in every step of its progress it led along avenues of advance in which others have been glad to follow.

This concern was established in a small shop in the Dennis-Everett building at North Attleboro, Massachusetts, in January, 1873, Robert F. Simmons at that time and place beginning the manufacture of watch chains of rolled gold plate. Joseph Lyman Sweet entered the organization in March, 1875, and from that time onward his energy and business ability held vital significance to the enterprise. In the meantime, in 1874, Edgar L. Hixon had come into the firm, and these three men formed the personnel of the concern until the death of Mr. Simmons, in 1894. Harold E. Sweet, Mr. Sweet's son, first mayor of the city of Attleboro, and always a leader in progressive effort, shortly thereafter came into the organization, and is now an active executive of the concern. No single phase of the history of this enterprise bears such striking significance to the progress of the jewelry industry as the leadership of these men in new methods and customs which have been adopted by the trade to the definite general good. They may well be called pioneers, for they have blazed the way for others along many lines of advance in which time has proved the value of their innovations. The R. F. Simmons Company was the first to stamp the initials of the manufacturer on a product in the jewelry field, the first to apply an efficient yet simple safety fastener to chains and fobs, the first to undertake the production of their own seamless wire, and the first to place upon the market one-quarter and one-eighth gold filled goods. These, however, are only the more important of their improvements in product or method of manufacture, many lesser "firsts" standing to their credit. Of greater significance to the jewelry trade was another innovation introduced

by this concern, that of aiding the retailer through national advertising, also the policy of guaranteeing satisfaction.

How much these progressive endeavors have meant to the concern itself is clearly apparent to the people of Attleboro, or even to the visitor to this city. The growth and development of the business have been continuous. The first plant was early replaced by a more spacious one in the Daggett building in Attleboro Falls, which with a third, and still larger plant, in turn, was relinquished to other interests as the enterprise outgrew its boundaries. The modern factory structure which formed the nucleus of the present plant was erected in 1892, and is a fitting monument to the energy and faith in the future which inspired its builders. Three stories in height, 255 feet in length, width varying from 40 to 65 feet, this building even became inadequate to the needs of the concern, and a large extension has since been built, which brings the floor space of the plant up to a total of fully 30,000 square feet. They put out nothing "plated" or "washed." The stock used is a solid gold cylinder on a core of alloy, in the form of a seamless gold-filled ingot, and from this, wire is made by reducing or "swedging" machines.

The sincerity which is exemplified in the product of this concern is a part of the fabric of its existence, and in the mutual coöperation and respect of employers and employees a fine spirit governs the daily activities of the plant. A profit-sharing basis was early adopted, a beneficiary association provides for the inevitable hour of need, and the links of friendship which unite workers and executives have been happily likened to the golden links, of which countless miles have been welded since the organization of the firm. To the city, the nation and the world, workers and executives alike yield the co-operation in all good effort which so definitely characterizes their organization. They bear a part in every worthy movement, in the World War period subscribing to nearly \$75,000 worth of Liberty Bonds, even after many of the finest young men of the organization had taken up arms for the allied cause. The fiftieth anniversary of the founding of this enterprise was fittingly celebrated on April 11, 1923, by a dinner at Pythian Hall, Attleboro. The Hon. George A. Sweeney, mayor of Attleboro, addressed the assemblage, also Dr. John A. Cousens, president of Tufts College, and the executives of the concern gave many delightful reminiscences of the early days of its history. Among the guests were employees who had been with the company up to twenty-five years or more of continuous service. On that occasion the Attleboro "Sun" printed the following:

The chains put out bearing the Simmons trade-mark are not gold "plated" or gold "washed" chains, but actually gold filled chains, for a solid gold cylinder is placed about a core of alloy and united into a seamless gold-filled ingot from which the wire is made by reducing or swedging machines. All this work is done by the company itself, which stands as the only chain house in the United States making its own gold-filled seamless wire. Even the base metal cores are made by the company, as are the swivels, spring rings, bars and other necessities constantly required by a manufacturer of jewelry.



The personal touch, however, is the key-note of success in the organization, for it is in the individual loyalty and coöperation of their employees that the firm has found its most highly valued assets. This phase of the business is also perhaps best expressed by quoting from the same issue of the "Sun," as follows:

Not only the members of the firm but the employes also refuse to confine their interest to themselves. All public improvement work is assured of friendly attention at all times. During the war many of the employees laid down the little gold link to take up the heavier rifle, but enough remained to subscribe to almost \$75,000 worth of Liberty Bonds—a liberality widely commented on at the time. The different charity organizations of Attleboro are not forgotten by either employer or employee.

Nor does the employer forget the employee by the way. A well-established beneficiary association among the employees has an ample fund in its treasury which, augmented by the small weekly assessments paid in by its members, insures that the sick and disabled will be taken care of. For over twenty years a profit-sharing plan has been in operation. The number of employees sharing in the profits since this plan was inaugurated is proof positive that it is appreciated.

Fifty years in weaving friendships! Fifty years in welding millions of golden links! If the tiny links made in these fifty years were laid end to end they would reach from—but this distance would sound so impossible that it had better be left unmentioned. Fifty years and still working—because the man of today still likes the chain, the counterparts of which adorned the plain vest of his father and the flowered waistcoat of his grandfather.

In various fields of local and State interest Joseph Lyman Sweet has shared with the people the administrative ability which has won him his personal success. He is a director of the First National Bank of Attleboro, the National Exchange Bank of Providence, Rhode Island, and until recently was a director of the Slater Trust Company of Pawtucket, Rhode Island. In political affairs Mr. Sweet supports the Democratic party, and for a number of years has served as a member of the Democratic State Committee. He was also a member of the Massachusetts Constitutional Convention of 1917-18, and faithfully represented his constituency in the deliberations of that body. His local public services include membership on the school committee for several years, during a portion of which period he acted as chairman. He was selectman of Attleboro after the division from North Attleboro in 1887, and at present is chairman of the trustees of the Attleboro Public Library, president of the Attleboro Hospital, operating the Sturdy Memorial Hospital for the city of Attleboro, and is an influential member of the Chamber of Commerce. During the World War Mr. Sweet served on various boards and committees, devoting a large share of his time to the home activities of the period, and received a medal from the governor of the State in recognition of services rendered. Fraternally Mr. Sweet is affiliated with Ezekiel Bates Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; King Hiram Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Attleboro Council, Royal and Select Masters; Bristol Commandery, Knights Templar; Massachusetts Consistory, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite; and Aleppo Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. His club affiliations include membership in the Economic and Universalist clubs,

of Boston, and the Highland Country Club of Attleboro. He is a leading member of the Universalist church, was formerly president of the Massachusetts Universalist State Convention, and member of the Board of Trustees of the Universalist General Convention.

Joseph Lyman Sweet married, at Attleboro, Massachusetts, on September 20, 1876, Florence M. Hayward of this city, daughter of Charles E. and Charlotte E. (Wheelwright) Hayward. The Hayward name is also one of the oldest and most highly honored names in Bristol county. Mr. and Mrs. Sweet are the parents of one son: Harold E., long associated with his father in the above business, one of the foremost citizens of Attleboro, who presented to the city of Attleboro, in honor of the name of his maternal forbears, the Hayward Athletic Field. An extended review of his life follows.

It is peculiarly fitting that the history of such a life as that of Joseph Lyman Sweet should find permanence in these annals of the city of Attleboro, for from the least to the greatest of his fellow-townpeople he is honored and beloved among them, and there is scarcely any interest of the community in which he has not borne an active part. Indeed the daily progress of the entire city is close to his heart, and every worthy effort commands his sympathy and coöperation.

**HON. HAROLD EDWARD SWEET**—As the managing executive of one of the foremost manufacturing jewelry concerns of Attleboro, Massachusetts, which recently celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its existence, Harold Edward Sweet is a prominent figure in the jewelry trade. As the first mayor of the city of Attleboro and a leader in all civic and welfare advance, Mr. Sweet is one of the best known and one of the most popular men of this city. Mr. Sweet is a member of an old and honored family of Massachusetts and a son of Joseph Lyman Sweet, whose sketch precedes this.

Harold Edward Sweet was born at West Mansfield, Massachusetts, June 24, 1877. His education was begun in the public schools of Attleboro and he later entered the English and Classical High School of Providence, Rhode Island. Thereafter entering Tufts College, Mr. Sweet was graduated from that institution in the class of 1898 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Following the completion of his education, Mr. Sweet entered the employ of the R. F. Simmons Company, manufacturing jewelers, of which his father was then a leading executive. Beginning as a bench hand Mr. Sweet served through the various positions, familiarizing himself with every department of the plant by the very practical method of experience. Rising to the position of road salesman he was active in that capacity for several years, in the fall of 1899 becoming a member of the firm. The history of this enterprise is mentioned at length in the preceding sketch.

Harold Edward Sweet has various other affiliations in Attleboro; indeed there is scarcely any local interest which does not command his generous aid and hearty coöperation. He is a director of the



First National Bank, of Attleboro and of many of the industrial corporations which make this city one of the most prosperous civic bodies in New England. He is a member and past president of the Attleboro Chamber of Commerce and has been prominent in Democratic party affairs in the State, having been nominated as presidential elector from the Fifteenth Massachusetts District on the Democratic ticket in 1920. In minor official capacities he served with efficiency and excellent judgment in the public progress in Attleboro, and for nine years was a member of the school committee, serving on various boards and committees of that body. His wide usefulness as a citizen and his definite public services led to his election as the first mayor of the city of Attleboro, taking up the duties of his office when the city charter came into effect, and serving two terms, from 1914-1918 inclusive, being unopposed for reelection in 1916. This period covering, as it did, the trying years of the World War, Mr. Sweet's ability and diplomacy were put to very exacting tests, but in all that involved the public welfare of the spontaneous patriotism of the hour, his leadership proved that of the man of great wisdom, as well as of vital force. Always deeply interested in military affairs, Mr. Sweet served while mayor in Company M, 14th Regiment, 5th Brigade, Massachusetts State Guard, with the rank of second lieutenant. Fraternally he is affiliated with many of the leading organizations of this section among which may be enumerated Free and Accepted Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and United Workmen. In college Mr. Sweet joined the Delta Upsilon fraternity. Mr. Sweet's benevolences are those of the man giving his best to the world and frankly acknowledging his responsibility to society. He presented to the city of Attleboro the Hayward Athletic Field as a memorial to his maternal family name, Hayward, but aside from this universally appreciated public benefaction his charitable and benevolent activities are invariably withheld from the public eye whenever it is possible to do so. He is a member of the Universalist church, of which he has been moderator for several years, and is a trustee of Massachusetts Universalist Convention. Mr. Sweet is also a trustee of Tufts College and of Dean Academy at Franklin. He is a member of the Economic and Universalist clubs of Boston, the Highland Country Club of Attleboro, and the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce, having a summer home at North Falmouth.

Mr. Sweet married, in the year 1900, Gertrude O. Hunton, of Detroit, Michigan, and they are the parents of two children: Hayward H., born January 18, 1909; and Marian H., born August 1, 1912.

**WILLIAM EDDY (2) FULLER**—From 1863, when the father was admitted, until 1917, when the son passed away, William Eddy Fuller (1) and (2), were members of the Bristol county bar, the father located in Taunton, the son in Fall River. For a quarter of a century William Eddy (1) Fuller, administered the office of judge of probate and insol-

veny at Taunton. His twenty-fifth anniversary was made the occasion of a notable gathering of the members of the Bristol bar, and at the request of the meeting, Judge Fuller sat for an oil painting which, when completed, was hung in the court room. He was regarded by other probate judges of the State as their chief justice, and his name is preserved in history as an intelligent and devoted student of probate law. In 1891 he published a work on Massachusetts probate law which became a standard handbook, ever since in use by the lawyers throughout the State. He was known as a model judge and citizen, and to his only son, William Eddy (2) Fuller, he transmitted his ability, talent and professional love for the law. Sixteen years before the father's death, the son was admitted to the same bar, and during those years they were contemporaries, the father on the bench, the son at the bar. William Eddy (2) Fuller to his legal ability added a keen business acumen that brought him into prominence among the textile manufacturers of his city, but until the time of his death he continued his legal partnership and practice. The father lived to almost acquire octogenarian honors, but the son passed away in the prime of his splendid powers, leaving the Bristol bar without a William Eddy Fuller for the first time in fifty-four years.

Fuller is a name honored in New England since "Mayflower" days, and long before, in England, Fullers had won both fame and high position in the church and in literature. Of Thomas Fuller, chaplain to Charles the Second, it was written: "Fuller was incomparably the most sensible, at least the least prejudicial great man of an age that boasted a galaxy of great men." In the United States a most distinguished member of the family was Melville W. Fuller, who became chief justice of the United States Supreme Court.

The New England founder of the family, Dr. Samuel Fuller, of the "Mayflower," was a son of Robert and Frances Fuller, of Redenhall, Norfolk-shire, England, and grandson of John Fuller, several of whose descendants were "Mayflower" passengers. The line as traced to William Eddy (2) Fuller follows:

Dr. Samuel Fuller, of the "Mayflower," and his third wife, Bridget (Lee) Fuller, who came to New England in the ship "Ann" in 1632. Their son, Rev. Samuel Fuller, and his wife, Elizabeth (Brewster) Fuller. Their son, Dr. Isaac Fuller, and his wife, Mary (Eddy) Fuller. Their son, Dr. Jabez Fuller, and his wife, Elizabeth (Hilliard) Fuller. Their son, Dr. Jonathan Fuller, and his wife, Lucy (Eddy) Fuller. Their son, Jabez (2) Fuller, and his wife, Sarah Hudson (Churchill) Fuller. Their son, Judge William Eddy Fuller, and his wife, Anna Miles (Corey) Fuller. Their son, William Eddy (2) Fuller, to whose memory this review is dedicated.

It will be noted that Jabez (2) Fuller of the sixth generation was the only head of these eight generations of Fullers that was not a professional man, the list including four physicians, one minister and two lawyers, one a judge. Collateral lines which



are interwoven with Fuller history are many, including the Corey family, founded in New England by Giles Corey, 1649; the Rhodes family which springs from Henry Rhodes, 1640, and the Churchill family, beginning with John Churchill, this line also including descent from that great captain of the Pilgrims, Captain Myles Standish.

William Eddy (2) Fuller, only son of Judge William Eddy (1) and Anna Miles (Corey) Fuller, was born in Taunton, Massachusetts, August 14, 1870, and died at his home in Fall River, Massachusetts, July 18, 1917. After preparation at Bristol Academy he entered Harvard University, whence he was graduated A. B., class of 1892. With strong inherited professional instincts it was but a question which profession he should embrace, his choice falling upon the law. He further prepared at Harvard Law School, and in 1895 received from that institution his LL. B. His father was then judge of the Court of Probate and Insolvency for Bristol county, residing in Taunton, the son choosing Fall River as the seat of his practice. Here he formed a partnership with Arthur S. Phillips, they practicing from 1895 until 1907 as Phillips & Fuller. Then the firm was dissolved, Mr. Fuller becoming associated in practice with William C. Gray, Fuller & Gray continuing until dissolved in 1917 through the death of the senior partner. Mr. Fuller was an able lawyer, standing high among his contemporaries and always commanding a good practice. He was a member of the Bristol County, Massachusetts State and American Bar associations, and was a close observer of the strictest construction of the ethics of his profession.

In 1904 Mr. Fuller first came prominently into business life, then accepted election as secretary and general manager of The Solvents Recovery Company. He was also a member of the board of directors of the Davis Mills, and from the organization of that corporation in 1902 until his passing was counsel to that corporation. At the time of the reorganization of the Kilbourn-Lincoln Machine Company, Mr. Fuller was chosen treasurer of the company, an office he ably filled, as he did all others, until the fall of 1916, when he was compelled by ill health to resign.

In religious preference Mr. Fuller was a Unitarian, member of the Fall River Society of that faith. He was always interested in civic affairs, but as a public-spirited citizen, never as a seeker for office. His political bias was Republican. He served the Chamber of Commerce as a director; was a member of the Quequechan Club; the Harvard Club of Fall River; the Coffee Tavern Association; the old Colony Historical Society and the Fall River Country Club. The last ten years of his life Mr. Fuller was afflicted with most serious eye trouble and "sat in darkness" most of that period. His general health was poor, and the winter of 1916 he spent in Florida, hoping to regain his lost strength and vigor. But his race was nearly run and the following summer he passed away, aged forty-seven years.

William Eddy Fuller married, September 22, 1897, May Queen Newcomb, daughter of Cyrenius A.

and Mary E. (Haskell) Newcomb, of Detroit, her father the founder of and until his death in March, 1915, president of the Newcomb-Endicott Company. Detroit's leading department store. He was succeeded in the presidency of that corporation by his son, C. A. Newcomb (2). To Mr. and Mrs. Fuller three children were born: 1. William Eddy (3), born June 29, 1898; a graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy, (1915); Harvard University, A. B., 1919, LL. B., (1921); and thus, after a lapse of four years, a third William Eddy Fuller appears at the Bristol county bar. He married Ethel Kilder, of Assonet, Massachusetts, and they are the parents of William Eddy (4) and Elizabeth Hatheway, born June 4, 1923, of the tenth American Fuller generation in direct lineal line. During the World War period, 1917, he attended the Junior Training Camp at Plattsburg, New York, and later, Plattsburg Officers' Training Camp, and in September, 1918, was commissioned second lieutenant, then was assigned to duty at Camp Taylor, Louisville, Kentucky. He continued in the service until honorably discharged with his command in December, 1918. 2. Newcomb, born September 22, 1900. He prepared for college, entered Harvard, but after completing his sophomore year did not return, but graduated from Exeter in 1920, and later was a student in The Textile School of Fall River, from which he finished in 1923. 3. Anna C., born April 27, 1907, now a junior in B. M. C. Durfee High School, Fall River.

Mrs. May Q. (Newcomb) Fuller survives her husband and continues her residence in the Fuller home at No. 745 Highland avenue, Fall River. She is a member of the Woman's Club of Fall River; the Fall River Country Club; the Acoaxet Country Club; the Fortnightly Club; and the Unitarian Society of Fall River, being active in church and charitable work as well as of social prominence.

**LEONTINE LINCOLN, A. M.**—Of those truly great men who have won power and influence through their own high achievements, then have given to the world benefactions of permanent significance, Leontine Lincoln, late of Fall River, Massachusetts, is an eminently noteworthy example. A man of distinguished, yet benevolent presence, forceful and gifted with broad abilities, yet possessing the keenest sympathy for the weak or unfortunate, Mr. Lincoln's spirit was one of rare beauty, and his life meant much to all who came within the circle of his acquaintance. Rising from the position of a clerk in the offices of the corporation of which his honored father was a leading executive, he advanced by regular steps until he reached the highest position in textile manufacturing, and in his citizenship he won a place among the devoted and public-spirited men of his city and State. Much as his business activities meant to the textile industry, his comprehensive service to the people in many realms of unrewarded effort means infinitely more, and its significance will endure for generations to come. It would be difficult in the extreme to consider Fall River during the past half-century without constant reference to Leontine Lincoln, for his work





Leontine L. Smith





is everywhere apparent, and his influence permeates very department of the life of the city. His death, which occurred in the early summer of 1923, was a public calamity, and when the news of his passing became known, the entire city mourned.

The pioneer of the Lincoln family in America was Thomas Lincoln, who has come down in history as "the miller," and who came from England to this country in 1636, settling at Hingham, Massachusetts. Thomas Lincoln became the owner of a mill in Taunton, on Mill river, and this he operated for thirty-three years, after which he was succeeded by his sons. The line of descent is through his son, Thomas (2) Lincoln, and his wife, Mary Austin; their son, Thomas (3) Lincoln, and his wife, Mary Stacy; their son, William Lincoln, and his wife, Rebecca Walker; their son, William (2) Lincoln, and his wife, Hannah Wade; their son, Caleb Lincoln, "miller and Revolutionary soldier," and his wife, Mercy Thayer; their son, Jonathan Thayer Lincoln, and his wife, Abby Luscomb; their son, Leontine Lincoln, and his wife, Amelia Sanford Duncan, deceased; and their sons, Jonathan Thayer (2) and Leontine (2) Lincoln, who now carry forward the business interests of their late father.

Down the generations of this family line every period of the history of the Colonies and the young Republic has seen the achievements of men of this name. In the sixth generation, Caleb Lincoln, "the miller," of Westville Village, trained his sons to the business, and through him and his descendants the manufacturing genius of the family has developed, subsequent generations having in turn been identified with the great enterprises of the city of large industries, Fall River. Notable among them was Jonathan Thayer Lincoln, a man of great business ability and mechanical genius, who was largely responsible for the upbuilding of the firm, later the corporation, Kilburn, Lincoln & Company, of which he was for years the executive head. Henry C., Edward, and Leontine Lincoln, all sons of Jonathan Thayer Lincoln, were trained under the direction of their able father.

Jonathan Thayer Lincoln, being of the seventh generation in this country, was born at Taunton, Massachusetts, October 17, 1805, and died at Fall River, July 23, 1881, "an ingenious and skillful mechanic, a business man of unquestioned integrity, a worthy and valued citizen." His parents moved to Westville, Massachusetts, where they occupied lands which had been in the family since 1660. Jonathan T. Lincoln learned the machinist's trade, beginning at the age of sixteen, and became a skilled workman. He worked at Pawtucket and Taunton, settling in Fall River in 1829, as master mechanic, with the Massasoit Mill Company. In 1845-46 he built two-thirds of the looms installed by the Wauwappa Manufacturing Company, and in the latter year became a member of the firm of E. C. Kilburn & Company, manufacturers of turbines, shafting, and various kinds of machinery for print works and iron mills. In 1856 the firm was organized as Kilburn, Lincoln & Son, the junior member being Henry C., son of Jonathan T. Lincoln. The firm specialty was

the "Fourneyon Turbine," and in 1867 an iron foundry was added to the plant. In 1868 the business was incorporated as Kilburn, Lincoln & Company, Jonathan T. Lincoln, the first president of the company, holding office until his death. A large and finely equipped plant was erected, and the manufacture of looms was made the principal activity, the company becoming the most important in this section in the manufacture of looms for silk and cotton weaving. The concern is now universally known as the Kilburn-Lincoln Machine Company. Henry C. Lincoln succeeded his father in the presidency, which he filled until his death in 1884, a period of twelve years. Edward Lincoln, the second son, was for more than half a century identified with the manufacture of paper.

In the year 1855 Jonathan T. Lincoln became associated with his son, Edward, in a paper manufacturing enterprise in North Dighton. He had large interests also in various other Fall River industries, and was a director of the Tecumseh Mills from their organization. One of the oldest Master Masons in the city, for many years treasurer of Mount Hope Lodge, his fraternal activities were only the expression of a broad benevolence, a sunny temperament and an earnest purpose in life. Rigorously upright in his personal attitude towards all responsibility, his judgment of others was charitable, and he gave generously to all worthy objects. He was a free soil Whig until the formation of the Republican party, of which he was thereafter a loyal supporter, but never an office-seeker. He married (first) Mary Cook; (second) Abby Luscomb, of Taunton. The former bore him two sons and a daughter: Henry C., Edward, and Mary; the latter, a son: Leontine, of whom further. Abby (Luscomb) Lincoln was descended from Robert Luscomb and his son, Francis, who came from Ashburton, Devonshire, England, in 1690, settling in Taunton.

Leontine Lincoln, only son of Jonathan Thayer and Abby (Luscomb) Lincoln, was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, December 26, 1846, and died in the city of his birth, June 1, 1923. Not only as manufacturer, but as citizen and philanthropist, as friend and companion of men in every walk in life, Leontine Lincoln became one of the best known and most highly prized men of this city, and the record of his rise to prominence and the useful part he bore in the community is one of vital interest to the people. His education was begun in the public schools of Fall River, and completed in private schools at Providence, Rhode Island. In 1865 he began his career in the offices of the Kilburn, Lincoln & Company's plant, his father then being president of the corporation. In 1872 Mr. Lincoln became treasurer of the company, succeeding E. C. Kilburn, who then retired. From that time on the young man rose rapidly in official rank, both in this enterprise and in other leading industries of Fall River. He filled the office of treasurer of the firm of Kilburn, Lincoln & Company for thirty-one years. Jonathan Thayer Lincoln, the first president of the company, was succeeded at his death by his eldest



son, Henry C. Lincoln, who in turn filled that office until his death, in 1884, to be succeeded by his brother-in-law, Andrew Luscomb. The latter passed away in 1903, and Leontine Lincoln succeeded to the presidency, which had then become the largest of all corporations manufacturing silk and cotton machinery. He was thereby the fourth president of the concern since its incorporation in 1868. He carried the enterprise to ever higher success, his genius for direction and administration qualifying him for leadership of the highest type. His extensive affiliations in the business would reveal in no uncertain way the world's appraisal of his abilities. At the time of his death he was president of the following corporations: The Lincoln Manufacturing Company; the Davis Mills; the Luther Manufacturing Company; the Arkwright Mills; the Seacomet Mills; the Parker Mills, as well as Kilburn, Lincoln & Company. He was president of the second National Bank of Fall River for nearly twenty years, or until the expiration of its charter. A director of the Massasoit-Pocasset National Bank, he was also at one time affiliated with the Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank as a trustee.

Mr. Lincoln's public service covered a long period of years and reached many important phases of the progress of the city and the commonwealth. He was many times heard to recall the fact that his first teacher was Mrs. Mary Buffington, mother of Fall River's first mayor, James Buffington. He was one of the first to recognize the value to the city of vocational training along the line of Fall River's greatest industry, and was one of the moving spirits in the founding of the Bradford Durfee Textile School, of which he was appointed an original trustee, upon its incorporation in 1903, and before the close of the year he was elected president, which office he ably filled until his death. The graduating class of 1923 was inexpressibly saddened by the death of Mr. Lincoln, which occurred the day before their public exercises. He was a member of the Fall River School Committee for a period of twenty-four years (1880-1904), and during sixteen years of the time served as chairman. He was also a trustee of the B. M. C. Durfee High School from its establishment, serving as secretary. That his endeavors in this field were appreciated is evidenced by the naming of the Lincoln School, which stands at the corner of High and Pine streets, in his honor. As far back as March, 1878, Mr. Lincoln was elected a trustee of the public library, and in this connection he was active until his death. His taste for good literature was an inherited one, and set a high standard in the library, which for many years he was accustomed to visit for a short time every evening. He wrote much on educational topics, and addressed many public gatherings convened for the furtherance of educational advance. He was also the author of pamphlets on economic and social subjects, and his work, "Leprosy and its Treatment," is esteemed a reference book on the subject by authorities on this disease.

This work was the outgrowth of Mr. Lincoln's service on the State Board of Lunacy and Charity,

to which he was appointed by Governor Greenhalgh on February 15, 1894, and by reappointment of succeeding governors continued to serve. Upon the division of the board into two, covering the two branches of work, Mr. Lincoln was made chairman of the State Board of Charity. This was in 1898, and he served until the abolishment of this board in 1919 by Governor Cox. One of the most wide-reaching and important phases of the work accomplished by this board was the founding of the leper colony on Penikese Island, in Buzzard's Bay, the island being purchased during the chairmanship of Mr. Lincoln. His political prominence was the least important of all his public activities. Always a staunch Republican, Mr. Lincoln was a worker for the good of the party, and in 1896 accepted the appointment as delegate to the Republican National Convention in St. Louis, Missouri, at which William McKinley was nominated for the presidency. On that occasion Mr. Lincoln declared for the gold standard, and throughout his lifetime his utterances on public questions were fearless, wise, and keenly relevant to the conditions or progress of the moment. But never did he accept a salaried office in the service of others, declining twice the mayoralty of the city of Fall River, and once the nomination for Congressman.

Deeply interested in local history and all that pertains to the preservation of old records, Mr. Lincoln was for many years a leading member of the Old Colony Historical Society, of Taunton, and was one of the moving spirits in the organization of the Fall River Historical Society in 1921. Exhaustively familiar with the Colonial history of New England, and Bristol county's share in it, his leadership in this project was an important factor in the success of the organization. Only two weeks before his death Mr. Lincoln presided as chairman at the annual meeting of the Historical Society. His many affiliations included membership in the American Libraries Association, the New England Cotton Manufacturers' Association, and the Brown University Club of Fall River. This University conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts in the year 1889. He was a member of the Boston City Club, the Home Market Club, of Boston, and the Quequechan Club of Fall River. He attended the Baptist Temple of Fall River, and there the last sad rites were held before the interment of the body on Monday afternoon, June 4, 1923.

Leontine Lincoln married, on May 12, 1868, Amelia Sanford Duncan, daughter of Rev. John and Mary A. (McCowan) Duncan, who died in 1917. They were the parents of two sons: 1. Jonathan Thayer (2), a sketch of whom follows. 2. Leontine (2), who was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, August 6, 1872. After completing high school, he entered business life with his father and brother, and has won similar high rank as a cotton broker.

In such a life as that of Leontine (1) Lincoln, whose death has cast a shadow over the entire city of Fall River, and saddened all who knew him here and elsewhere, there is exemplified the rich beneficence which makes the world better and happier,







*A. Beckham*



the spirit of brotherly kindness which assumes the burdens of the weak without recompense, and delights in directing the feet of youth to safe and worthy paths of effort. The one consolation, in considering the passing of this man among men, is the fact that for so many years he was spared to the community. His death was sudden, a result of an attack of appendicitis, followed by an operation at the Truesdale Hospital. It is a comfort to those who survive to know that his suffering was brief and the end peaceful and quiet,

\* \* \* \* sustained and soothed  
By an unfaltering trust \* \* \* \*  
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch  
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.

He is gone, and the paths which so long he has trod will know his feet no more. Yet the work he did, and the living forces which he set in motion, will continue to do good down through the centuries, and for generations to come his name will be spoken with reverence and his memory cherished.

**JONATHAN THAYER (2) LINCOLN, A. B., A. M.**—The name of Jonathan Thayer Lincoln is one that has been known and honored in Fall River, Massachusetts, since 1829, when it was brought there by a young machinist, who later became the head of Kilburn, Lincoln & Company, which was incorporated in 1868. That Jonathan Thayer Lincoln left sons: Henry C., Edward and Leontine, the last-named of extended mention in the foregoing sketch. Leontine Lincoln married, Amelia Sanford Duncan, and they were the parents of a second Jonathan Thayer, whose career is herein reviewed.

Jonathan Thayer (2) Lincoln was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, November 6, 1869. He completed public school study with graduation from B. M. C. Durfee High School, then entered Harvard University, whence he was graduated with the degree of A. B. in 1892, later receiving the degree of A. M. from Dartmouth College. After college years were over he entered the employ of Kilburn, Lincoln & Company, founded by his grandfather, Jonathan Thayer Lincoln (now the Kilburn, Lincoln Machine Company), and became manager, now being general manager and a director of that corporation; a director of the Lincoln Manufacturing Company and of the Seconnet Mills.

Mr. Lincoln has given a great deal of time to the study of economics, and is a lecturer at Dartmouth College on labor questions. He has also written numerous articles on different phases of those questions, and is the author of "The City of the Dinner Pail," (1909); and "The Factory," (1912). He is a member of the American Economic Association; American Sociological Society; the Asiatic Society of Japan; and other societies; and is a Republican in politics. His clubs are: The Quequechan, of Fall River; Twentieth Century, of Boston; and the Army and Navy, of New York.

Mr. Lincoln married, June 24, 1903, Louise Sears Cobb, of West Newton, Massachusetts, and they are the parents of two children: Victoria Endicott, born

October 23, 1904; and Jonathan Thayer, Jr., born December 14, 1910. The family home is at No. 68 Bigelow street. Mr. Lincoln's offices are at No. 37 Canal street, Fall River, Massachusetts.

**ANSON CHURCHILL PECKHAM**, a resident of Fall River since early childhood, is of New England birth and ancestry, a lineal descendant in the eighth generation of the family founded in Rhode Island by John Peckham, who was at Newburyport as early as 1638. The founder of the English family is believed to have been John Peckham, who was archbishop of Canterbury, 1279-1292, although in 1127 a Robert Peckham was chaplain to Henry I, who may have been the archbishop's ancestor. Sir Edmund Peckham, a descendant, was master of the mint under Queen Elizabeth, and knighted in 1542. His son, Sir George Peckham, was a merchant adventurer and was one of an exploring party to North America in 1574.

John Peckham, the American founder of the family, is said to have been the younger son of a titled English family and came to New England with the Hutchinsons. He was a zealous Baptist and in 1648 was registered as one of the ten male members of the First Baptist Church of Newport, Rhode Island. The line of descent from John Peckham, the founder, is thus traced in this branch: John Peckham, the founder. His son, Rev. William Peckham, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Newport, believed to have been the first Baptist minister ordained in New England, was deputy to General Court. His son, William Peckham, deputy to the General Court, and his wife, Mary (Tew) Peckham. Their son, William Peckham, and his wife, Phoebe (Barker) Peckham. Their son, Peleg Peckham, and his wife, Elizabeth (Smith) Peckham. Their son, Henry Peckham, a soldier of the War of 1812, town clerk for many years, and his wife, Esther (Gould) Peckham. Their son, Reuben Morton Peckham, and his wife, Elizabeth Pope (Churchill) Peckham. Their son, Dr. Anson Churchill Peckham, of further mention.

Reuben Morton Peckham was born in the old Dudley House in Middletown, Rhode Island, September 17, 1823, and died at Fall River, Massachusetts, July 4, 1911. In 1830 Fall River became the family home and there his after life was spent. He was a carpenter and pattern-maker, also a house builder, and for several years prior to his retirement was carpenter at the Narragansett Mills. He was a natural musician, a good singer, and played upon several instruments. In politics he was an independent Republican, a member of the Second Baptist Church of Fall River. He married, in Middleboro, Massachusetts, October 25, 1846, Elizabeth Pope Churchill, daughter of Anson Sprague and Betsey (Collins) Churchill of New Bedford. Mr. and Mrs. Peckham walked life's pathway for almost fifty-six years, Mrs. Peckham passing away at Fall River June 25, 1902, her husband surviving her nine years. They were the parents of seven children, the fourth a son, Anson Churchill, of further mention.

Anson Churchill Peckham was born at Somerset,



Massachusetts, September 3, 1855, but since 1858 Fall River has been his home. He attended the public schools of Fall River, then continued his studies under the instruction of Isaac Smith, Jr., A. M., M. D., until matriculating in the medical department of Dartmouth College, whence he was graduated M. D., October 30, 1877. The following month he began the practice of medicine at Fall River in association with his preceptor, Dr. Isaac Smith, Jr., an association dissolved by the death of Dr. Smith in 1882. On May 20 of that year Dr. Peckham established offices in the Ridings House, where he remained until August, 1889, when he bought and removed to his present location at the corner of Purchase and Cherry streets.

When the Fall River Hospital (now the Union Hospital) was opened in 1888, Dr. Peckham was appointed a member of the medical staff and served for twenty years. He also served upon the staff of the City Hospital (now Fall River General Hospital) for a period of seven years. In 1897 he was appointed a member of the Fall River pension board as one of its medical examiners, a position he resigned in 1902. For thirty years Dr. Peckham has been a member of the Fall River Medical Society, keeping in close touch with the medical men of the city, in which he has now practiced his profession for over forty-five years. He has seen Fall River grow from a city of 13,000 to one of 126,000, and from operations performed in patients' homes often by the light of one or more lanterns to those now performed in splendidly equipped hospitals.

The doctor, in the intervals of a busy and successful professional life, has written a great deal of biography, and has preserved the life history and career of many of the physicians who have practiced in Fall River since 1811, when Dr. Amory Glazier became Fall River's first resident physician. For each of these physicians Dr. Peckham has complete data covering birth, family, education, graduation, with a record of their active practice and noteworthy incidents of their work in hospitals and societies. Much of this matter will appear in the historical volume of this work in the chapters devoted to Early Doctors and Medical Societies.

In 1901 Dr. Peckham was admitted to membership in the American Medical Association; in 1909, having served in 1889 as secretary and treasurer and later as vice-president, he was elected president of the Fall River Medical Society. In 1915 he was appointed by Mayor James H. Kay a member of the Fall River Board of Health, was reappointed by Mayor Kay in 1918, and again in 1921. He is now a member of Fall River Medical Society; South Boston Medical Library Association; American Public Health Association; Associated Boards of Health of the Southeastern Massachusetts Health District; Dartmouth Club of Boston; and Adams and Herrick clubs of Fall River. He is a member of the Masonic order, affiliated with Narragansett Lodge, Fall River Chapter, Fall River Council and Godfrey de Bouillon Commandery. He is a noble of Palestine Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine; past chancellor of Anawam

Lodge, Knights of Pythias; Fall River Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Metacomet Encampment. In political faith he is a Republican.

Dr. Peckham married, November 7, 1882, Ida L. Waite, of Tiverton, Rhode Island, and they are the parents of a daughter, Sadie Churchill.

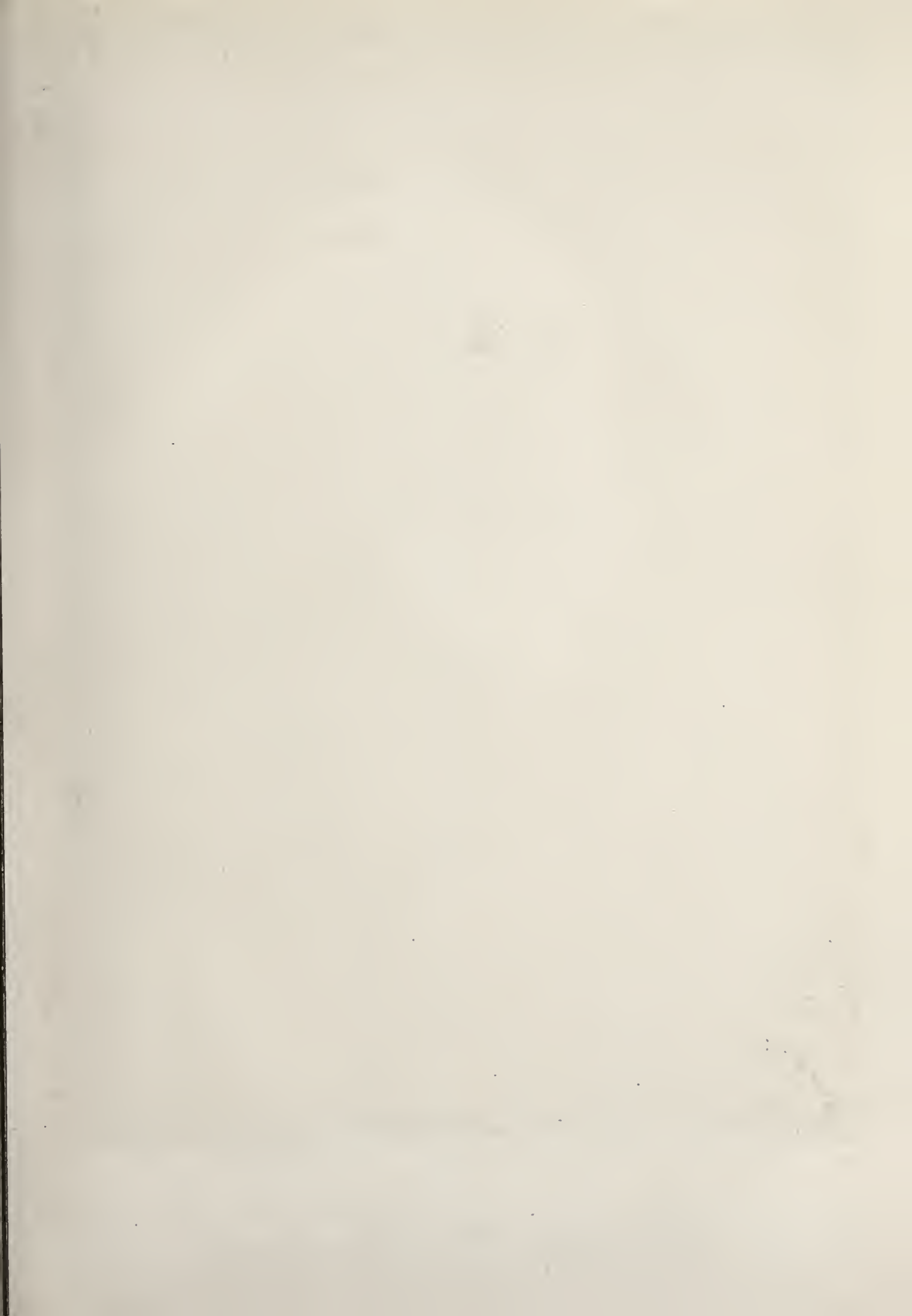
**FRANKLIN DUNBAR WILLIAMS**—The construction world of Bristol county, Massachusetts, is going forward under the leadership of progressive and public-spirited men whose activities are doing much for the general advance. In this group Franklin Dunbar Williams is a leading figure, and as the builder of some of the foremost institutional, industrial and commercial structures, as well as many of the most beautiful residences in this section, his name finds honored place in these pages. The Williams family is one of the oldest in this State, Mr. Williams being the seventh generation in direct line from Richard Williams, one of the original purchasers of Taunton, in 1637. He is also descended from distinguished forbears through his maternal line.

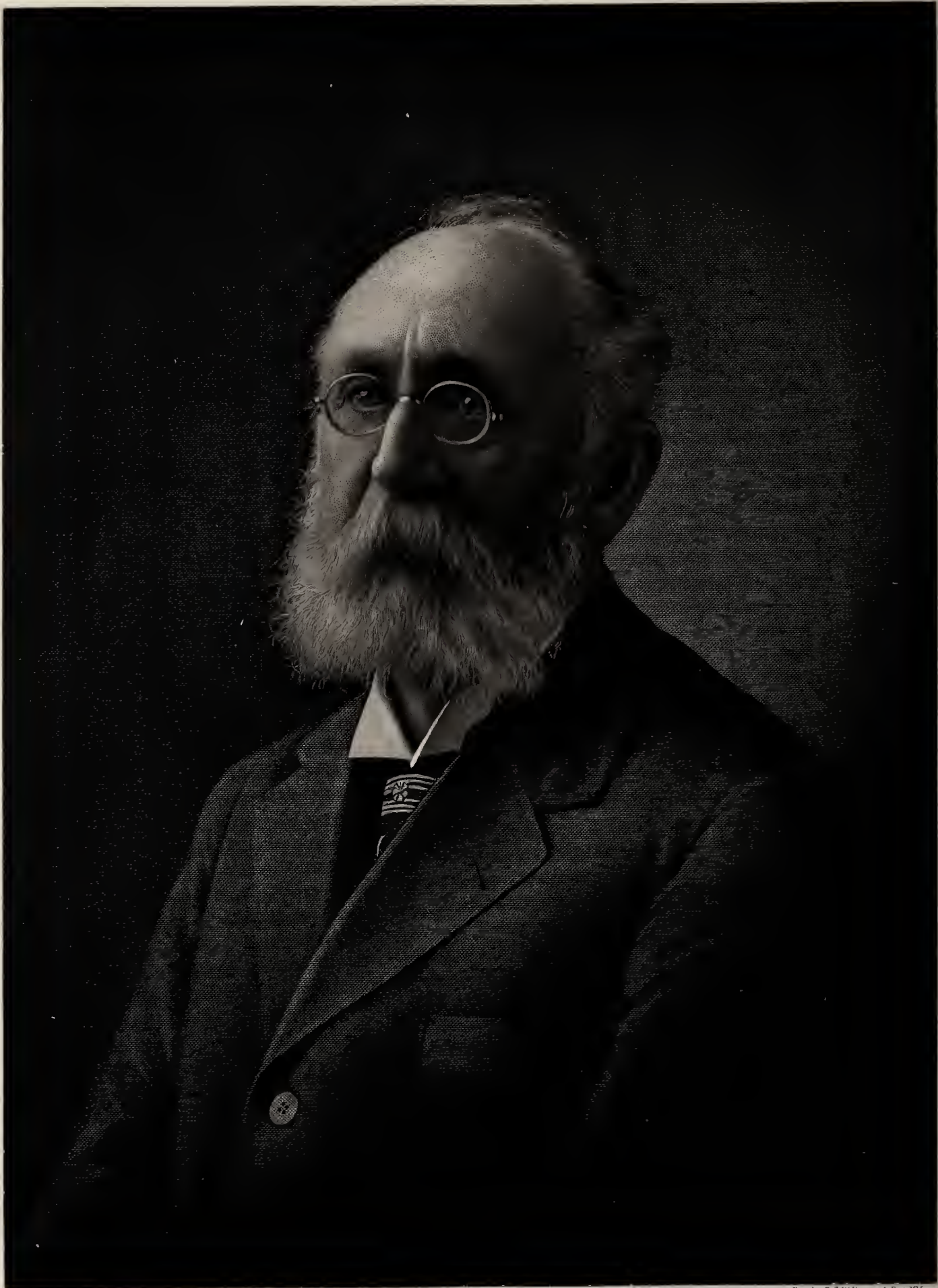
Franklin D. Williams is a son of George Bradford and Sarah Carver (Barstow) Williams, both natives of Taunton, who lived and died in this city. The father, who was born November 12, 1824, died March 29, 1900, after a long and useful career in the lumber business. His business brought him in contact with the most significant activities of the day, but he was a man of very modest and retiring temperament, always averse to publicity of any kind, thus his genuine worth was little appreciated. The mother was born November 1, 1826, and died September 26, 1910.

Franklin Dunbar Williams was born at the family homestead at No. 43 Ingell street, Taunton, November 21, 1861. His education, begun in the public schools of Taunton, was finished in Chauncey Hall School, Boston, his business life beginning soon after his return from Boston. As a young man, Mr. Williams was deeply interested in all lines of construction activities, and he looks back to a certain date of significance to more than his own career, when he adopted an original method of placing himself in line with this branch of human effort. On Monday, May 15, 1882, he hired a competent carpenter and began taking contracts, in the meanwhile learning the trade. This was before he was twenty-one years of age, by several months, and that early beginning gave him a wonderful start. Mr. Williams later established a mercantile enterprise at his original location at No. 50 Weir street for the sale of hardware and builders' supplies, and eventually removed both store and office to his present location at No. 15 Broadway. Although it might not be entirely correct to state that Mr. Williams specializes in residential work, still his great interest in this branch of his business perhaps places it in the lead. Mr. Williams has built many of the modern school houses and manufacturing plants of the city, as well as several institutions for the State.

During the many years in which Mr. Williams







Lewis Historical Pub Co

Eng. by S. C. Williams & Bro. N.Y.

Charles M. Rhodes,



has been thus active, he has kept in close touch with all local advance, and has become financially interested in many of the leading enterprises of this section. He is president of the Taunton Knitting Company; the Bay State Crucible Company; the Presbrey Stove Lining Company; an ex-president of the Winthrop Cotton Yarn Company; a director of the New England Brass Company, and a member of the board of investment of the Taunton Savings Bank.

A leading figure in fraternal circles, Mr. Williams is a member of Ionic Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; St. Mark's Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, of which he is a past high priest; New Bedford Council, Royal and Select Masters; St. John's Commandery, Knights Templar, of Providence, Rhode Island; the Massachusetts Order of the High Priesthood; and Palestine Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, also of Providence. He is a member of the Winthrop Club. By political affiliation he is identified with the Republican party, and is interested in public affairs as a progressive and forward-looking citizen.

Mr. Williams married, January 17, 1888, at the Unitarian church, in Taunton, Emeretta Celia Tripp, daughter of Isaiah Kirby and Celia Celestia (Wilbur) Tripp, who had been Mrs. Hodges prior to her marriage to Mr. Tripp. Mr. Tripp was born at Westport, Massachusetts, September 2, 1844, and died at Woburn, also in this State, January 17, 1912. The mother was born at Winslow, Maine, May 3, 1840, and died in Taunton, September 5, 1919. Mrs. Williams was born in Boston, Massachusetts, December 8, 1864, and is a graduate of Taunton High School. Mr. Williams is a lifelong resident of Taunton, and both are members of the First Congregational Church (Unitarian).

**A. GILBERT WILLIAMS.**—Broadly successful in his chosen field of activity and affiliated with various branches of commercial and financial endeavor in Bristol county, Massachusetts, A. Gilbert Williams is a noteworthy figure in the city of Taunton, and his position in the world of construction is one of marked importance. He stands at the head of one of the older establishments of this city in the distribution of lumber, sash, doors, and blinds, also operating a planing mill. Mr. Williams is a member of an old family of Taunton, and is a son of George Bradford Williams, an account of whom appears in the preceding sketch.

A. Gilbert Williams was born in Taunton, Massachusetts, and was educated in the local public and high schools. His first business experience was in association with his father in the lumber interest above mentioned, then after a time he entered business for himself, establishing a planing mill. His first location was on High street, and for about fifteen years he was active along this line, then in the year 1887 he formed an association with his brothers under the title of A. G. Williams & Company, for the purpose of dealing in lumber, sash, doors, blinds, and so forth. He continued the operation of the planing mill which he originally started

and equipped the plant with modern steam machinery. He also had a saw mill, and the various buildings, which occupy nearly three acres of floor space, comprise one of the most complete and up-to-date plants of this kind in Bristol county. The scope of their operations is practically within a radius of fifteen miles, their interest centering on Ingell street, near Weir Village, with factory in the rear of No. 62 Weir street. They employ about twenty hands, and in his position as treasurer of this company Mr. Williams is considered one of the foremost men in construction circles in this section. In the world of finance Mr. Williams is well known as a director of the Machinists' Bank of Taunton, and he is interested in various branches of community advance, serving as trustee of the Mount Pleasant Cemetery Association, also of this city. Politically he supports the Republican party, and while he has never sought the honors or emoluments of public office he has served as alderman from the fourth ward during the years 1884-86, inclusive, and also in 1889-90. He has few interests outside those which align closely with his business, but is a member of the Old Colony Historical Society, and is a member of the Unitarian church.

Mr. Williams married, in 1912, Etta E. Goff, of Rehoboth, Massachusetts, daughter of Zenas and Cynthia (Bliss) Goff.

**CHARLES MARCUS RHODES.**—An honored and venerable figure in the city of Taunton, Massachusetts, is Charles Marcus Rhodes, who for many years was actively identified with the firm of M. M. Rhodes & Sons Company, and still retains his interest in the enterprise, although he has in recent years turned over to others the responsibilities which he carried for so long and faithfully discharged. Few men have been more active in all that pertains to the welfare of the people and the progress of the civic body, yet Mr. Rhodes has always chosen to work quietly for the general advance, lending his influence and aid to all worthy endeavor, while his name has never been heralded as a leader of men.

Mr. Rhodes is a son of Marcus M. Rhodes, who was born in 1822, in Foxboro, Massachusetts, and died in Taunton, in 1911, at the great age of ninety-four years. A man of large ability and enterprising spirit, he founded the interest which his sons later carried forward, and which is now a leading concern in its field, prospering under the management of the third generation. The mother, Rowena A. (Williams) Rhodes, was born in 1826, in Taunton, Massachusetts, and died December 16, 1907, at the age of eighty-one years.

Charles Marcus Rhodes was born in the city of Taunton, Massachusetts, October 6, 1846. His education was begun in the local public schools, and following the completion of the high school course, he entered Harvard University, from which he was graduated in the class of 1868, with the degree of Bachelor of Science. Following the completion of his education, Mr. Rhodes became associated with his father as a member of M. M. Rhodes & Sons,



his brothers, George Holbrook and Albert Clinton Rhodes, also being partners in the business, which is now continued under the management of Marcus Arnold Rhodes, Mr. Rhodes' nephew, and son of George H. Rhodes, a review of the career of the present head appearing elsewhere in this work. This enterprise was founded by Marcus M. Rhodes in the early fifties, and the product was originally lining nails, coffin tacks and upholsterers' buttons. The three sons of the founder, Charles M., George H., and Albert C., eventually entered the business as partners, and with changing conditions and steady growth the enterprise developed into one of more than local importance. They began to make shoe buttons about 1872, and in recent years their product has been largely shoe laces and upholstery buttons, in which latter branch they hold leading rank in Taunton. They also enamel hooks for shoes, doing an extensive business in this line. The plant is located at No. 12 Porter street, and with eight buildings, aggregating a floor space of some 20,000 square feet, they employ about sixty people. Charles Marcus Rhodes has for many years been vice-president of this industrial organization, and although he has retired from active participation in the business of the corporation, still fills the office of vice-president and acts in an advisory capacity. He is frequently sought for services of this nature by other representative business concerns, for his judgment is prized by all who know him, and his far-sighted survey of conditions and the trend of affairs make his counsel valuable to any line of commercial and industrial endeavor. He has few affiliations with organized advance, giving his cordial aid and assistance to all in time of special effort, and is a member of the Broadway Congregational Church of Taunton, and a deacon since May 12, 1873.

Mr. Rhodes married (first) in 1875, Annie B. Haskins, of Taunton, who died in 1898. She was a daughter of Samuel and Sarah A. (Hathaway) Haskins, of this city. He married (second) Jane E. (Dalglish) Robinson, daughter of Robert and Harriett (Gray) Dalglish, and they reside at No. 49 Cedar street, Taunton. Mr. Rhodes has one daughter, Mabel, wife of Everett Wilbur Manter, and they reside in Taunton, and have four children: Mabel Rhodes, Edith Haskins, Charlotte Faunce, and Annie Blake.

**HON. FREDERICK STANLEY HALL, A. B., LL. B.**—One of the foremost names in the legal profession in Bristol county, Massachusetts, and a name widely known throughout the New England States, is that of the Hon. Frederick Stanley Hall, whose professional career of some thirty-eight years has carried him to a very high position in his chosen field of endeavor, and whose influence is always cast on the side of righteousness and progress.

A man of large mental stature and lofty attainments, Judge Hall inherits the spirit of the pioneer from a long line of worthy ancestors, being the ninth generation from George Hall, the immigrant ancestor of this family, who came from England in early Colonial days and was one of the original

settlers of what is now the city of Taunton. This family has given to the world in every generation men of broad significance to the professions and industries, and to the commercial advance of the Colonies and the young Republic. In direct line Bryan Hall served in the Revolutionary War, with the rank of captain, in the Continental Army. Richard Henry Hall, Judge Hall's father, was for many years active as a metallurgist, but was better known generally through his usefulness as a public servant. Always constructively interested in the community advance, he served in many minor offices, and in 1885 was elected mayor of the city of Taunton, his subsequent reëlections retaining him in this high office for three terms. He did much for the city, both in advancing her immediate interests and in safeguarding her permanent welfare, and his name is an honored one in the annals of the municipality. Richard Henry Hall married Susan J. Drake, who was born at North Bridgewater, Massachusetts, and was also a member of an old and honored New England family. His death occurred September 2, 1909, while she passed away July 4, 1906.

Frederick Stanley Hall was born at Norton, Massachusetts, February 10, 1861. Gaining his early education in the public schools, he later entered Harvard University for his course in arts and letters, and was graduated in the class of 1882, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Thereafter taking up his professional preparations at Boston University Law School, he was graduated from that institution with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. Shortly afterward admitted to the bar of his native State, the young man entered upon the practice of the law in the city of Taunton in June of the same year, and was active as an independent practitioner for about seven years. He then formed a partnership with Edward H. Bennett, and under the firm name of Bennett & Hall went forward until the death of the senior partner, which occurred in 1898. Mr. Hall then formed a partnership with Charles C. Hagerty, and for twenty years the firm of Hall & Hagerty was a leading one in legal circles in Massachusetts. Judge Hagerty withdrew from the partnership in 1918, and the firm was reorganized under the present title of Hall, Hall & Washburn, Judge Hall's present partners being his son, Stanley Perkins Hall and Charles Godfrey Washburn. With offices in the Crocker building in Taunton, where the head of the firm has been located for thirty-five years, this firm is holding front rank in the profession. Not only as one of the important men in his profession, but also as a servant of the people, Judge Hall is giving of his abilities and energies to the world, and for many years he has been numbered among the outstanding men of Taunton.

A supporter of the Republican party from the time of attaining his majority, Judge Hall was a worker in the ranks of the party as a young man, and when still only twenty-six years of age was brought forward as a candidate for representative to the State Legislature. He was elected with a gratifying majority, and his work as a legislator



marked him as a young man of whom his constituents might well be proud. During the years 1887-88 he was appointed to some of the most important committees, including the judiciary committee and the rules committee, and also served as chairman of the prison committee. In 1893 he was appointed by Governor William E. Russell, as judge of the District Court of Bristol county, which responsible position he filled for a full term of ten years. Meanwhile, in 1896, Judge Hall was elected delegate to the National Republican Convention which nominated the martyred President McKinley to the highest office in the land. In 1904-05 Judge Hall was a member of the executive council under Governors Douglass and Bates, and his work in this connection was also broadly constructive and calculated to advance the good of the commonwealth. His further public services have included membership in the Taunton Board of Trade, of which he was for several years president, also membership on the Taunton School Committee, covering a period of six years. Considering first, at all times, the best welfare of the people, Judge Hall has followed the dictates of his party whenever and wherever he believed that it led forward. On those issues in which he believed the party hovered on the verge of retrogression, he has taken able and fearless leadership, and such is his power over men that his contemporaries have chosen to cast in their lot with him in righteous defeat rather than in inglorious victory.

Judge Hall's private interests and public service have gone forward together. He was counsel for many years for the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad, and is at present (1923) counsel for the Eastern Massachusetts Street Railway Company. He has been counsel for the county of Bristol for the past twenty years. Various affiliations connect his name with the industries and the world of finance. He was a director of the Bay State Crucible Company, the Bristol County Trust Company, the Pierce Hardware Company and the Taunton Pearl Works. During the World War he was chairman of the Legal Advisory Board, for which service he received a certificate of appreciation from the United States Government. Judge Hall's wide-reaching social connections include membership in the Winthrop and Harvard clubs of Taunton, the Segregansett Country Club, the Quequechan Club of Fall River, and the Wamsutta Club of New Bedford. He is a life member of the Old Colony Historical Society, and is a leading member of the Young Men's Christian Association and an active patron of its many endeavors. Identified with religious advance from his youth, he is a member of St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, of which he has been vestryman for several years.

Judge Hall married, on November 2, 1888, Bessie H. Perkins, of Taunton, daughter of John B. and Mattie C. (Bright) Perkins, of that city. Five children were born to this union: Stanley P., whose life is reviewed in the following sketch; Frederick H., a graduate of Harvard University, degree of Bachelor of Arts; Rachel, a graduate of the Winsor School of Boston, and Pine Manor of Wellesley,

Massachusetts; Richard Perkins, who died at the age of six years; and Helen, who died at the age of one year.

**STANLEY PERKINS HALL, A.B., LL.B.,** is counted among the leading young men of Taunton, Massachusetts, in the profession of the law, and his position as a member of the firm of Hall, Hall & Washburn, is one of wide prominence. Born in the city of Taunton, September 3, 1889, Mr. Hall was reared in his native place and educated in the institutions of his native State. A son of Judge Frederick Stanley Hall (see preceding sketch), of Taunton, the head of the above law firm, Mr. Hall is a direct descendant of George Hall, one of the original settlers of Taunton, and of Captain Benjamin Hall, of Revolutionary fame. His maternal family line has also been long in this country, and his mother, Bessie H. (Perkins) Hall, is a member of a prominent family of Hartford, Connecticut.

As a young lad, Mr. Perkins attended the public schools of Taunton, and was graduated from the Taunton High School in the class of 1906. His course in the liberal arts was covered at Harvard University, from which he received his Bachelor's degree in the arts upon his graduation in the class of 1910. The success of his honored father in the profession of the law undoubtedly influenced Mr. Hall in his choice of a career, and entering Harvard University Law School, he was graduated in the class of 1912, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. Admitted to the bar of his native State before the close of the year, Stanley P. Hall took up the practice of his profession in the offices of Hall & Hagerty, and from the beginning his success was assured. Not only as the progressive son of a brilliant father, but as a rising young lawyer of lofty ideals and a comprehensive grasp of his position, whatever the issue, Mr. Hall holds high rank in the profession. In the year 1919 he became a member of the firm of Hall, Hall & Washburn, and in this association with his father and Charles Godfrey Washburn, he is going forward to ever larger success. In the public life of his native city Mr. Hall has taken the deepest interest from his boyhood, but until quite recently he has never accepted public responsibilities. On January 3, 1923, he took up the duties of his present office as district attorney, succeeding Joseph T. Kenney. Mr. Hall is a veteran of the World War, having served in the United States Navy from 1917 until 1919. He was assigned to duty at Newport, Rhode Island, and Pelham Bay, New York, and received his honorable discharge from the service with the rank of ensign. He is now a member of the American Legion. His clubs are the Winthrop, the Bristol and the Segregansett Country, and he is an active member of the Young Men's Christian Association. His religious affiliation is with the Episcopal church.

Stanley Perkins Hall married, on January 1, 1918, Julia D. Burke, of Newport, Rhode Island, and they are the parents of three children: Stanley P., Jr., born November 20, 1918; Frederick R., born October 25, 1919; and Nancy, born April 9, 1921.



**GEORGE HENRY EDDY, SR.**—The death of the late George Henry Eddy, Sr., of Fall River, Massachusetts, in his eighty-fourth year, brought to its close a career which was notably long and which continued to render service to the last. The year before his death Mr. Eddy was made a member of the committee of citizens appointed to take charge of the preparation of a "History of Fall River," published by the Fall River Merchants' Association as a feature of the Cotton Centennial held in 1911, and it was only two years previous to his death that he declined reappointment as a member of the board of assessors. He had been prominent in the business, civic, and official activities of Fall River for fifty-four years, and until a few weeks before the end, his erect, active figure was one of the most familiar in the business section of the city. He was identified with the banking business in Fall River, was president of the Weetamoe Mills, manager and treasurer of the Flint Mills, a city and State government official, editorial writer, cotton broker, and an ardent supporter of all measures planned to benefit his fellow-citizens or advance the interests of his city, State, or country.

George Henry Eddy, Sr., was born in Warren, Rhode Island, January 5, 1829, and died at his home, No. 480 Locust street, Fall River, September 9, 1912. His father, a sea-faring man, was lost at sea when Mr. Eddy was an infant. The mother subsequently married Henry H. Hill, and the family in 1838 moved to Fall River, Massachusetts; where the son, George H., then but nine years of age, secured employment as tier boy at the American Print Works, where he remained for three years, and then worked for awhile in the Globe Print Works at Globe Village. During this time he attended school three months of each year. He left the mills to accept a position as clerk for Caleb B. Snow, a grocer, whose store was located in a stone building on Anawan street, opposite the Metacommet Mill. Later he was made manager of a coöperative store, one of a series scattered over New England, but, after a time of considerable experience in that connection, he purchased the Snow store, which he continued to conduct until 1861, when he sold his interests and retired from the grocery business. He then formed a partnership with Alexander T. Milne, with whom he conducted a shoe store. Shortly after the incorporation of the Flint Mills he was elected treasurer of the corporation, and that important official position he filled until 1878, when he engaged in the cotton brokerage business in Fall River. In addition to his varied business activities Mr. Eddy was editorial writer for the "Evening News" and his remarkably strong and vigorous articles were often quoted and received favorable comment from many leading newspapers. Despite his fragmentary school attendance he had been a constant reader and had made himself a remarkably well-informed man with a style that was characterized by force and elegance. In 1889 he was elected an assessor and served through 1894. Ten years later he was reappointed by Mayor

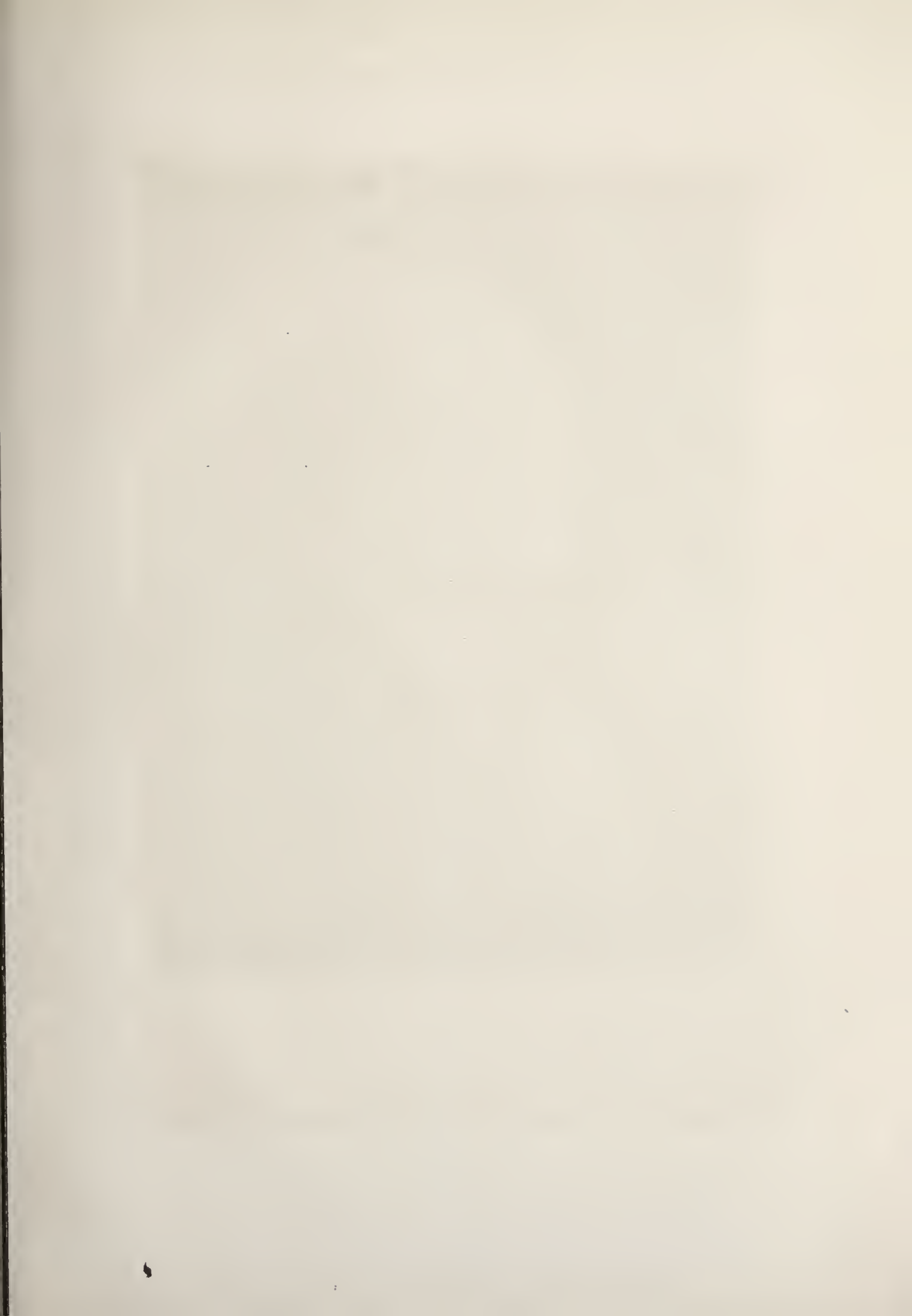
George Grime and continued in office until his retirement in 1911, the year before his death. He had been a member of the Common Council in 1856, 1857, 1859 and 1876, and was president of that body in 1857. He was also a member of the Board of Aldermen in 1861 and again in 1878. He served one year in 1872 as a representative in the General Court and advocated the ten-hour law years before its enactment. In 1895 he was appointed by Mayor Greene a member of the first reservoir commission and did valuable service. He was reappointed by Mayor Amos M. Jackson in 1898 and again by Mayor Grime in 1901. For many years he was a member of the board of directors of the Weetamoe Mills, and from 1897 to the time of his death in 1912 he was president of that corporation. He was also a director of the Wampanoag Mills, and was clerk of the Citizens' Savings Bank, of which organization he was one of the oldest members. A great reader himself, and lover of the best literature of the day, he was anxious that others should share in these interests, and was one of the first members of the Athenaeum, which later developed into the Fall River Public Library. He was at one time a captain in the volunteer fire department and was instrumental in placing in the fire house a library for use of the company. Being a self-educated man, he appreciated the difficulties in the way of those whose opportunities for schooling were limited and did all in his power to enable them to gain for themselves a liberal education. His unselfishness, his generosity, and his general spirit of helpfulness won for him in a very high degree, the love and esteem of his associates.

On October 24, 1852, George H. Eddy, Sr., married Ann Howarth, and they were the parents of three sons: George Henry (2), of whom further; William H.; and John D. Mrs. Eddy and all her sons survive the father.

**GEORGE HENRY EDDY, JR.**—One of the well known bankers not only of Bristol county but of the State of Massachusetts is George Henry Eddy, Jr., who after forty-seven years of association with banking affairs in Fall River, thirty of which were spent in official connection with the Fall River National Bank, resigned as cashier of the last-named organization in 1921. In his long service in the banking business he made many friends, and the place he holds in the esteem of his fellow-citizens is a tribute to sterling qualities of heart and mind.

George Henry Eddy, Jr., son of George Henry, Sr., and of Ann (Howarth) Eddy (see preceding sketch), was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, December 12, 1854, and received his education in the public schools of Fall River and in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1873 he entered the employ of E. S. Brown as bookkeeper, continuing in that position for two years. He then, in 1875, began his long connection with the banking business by entering the employ of the Fall River Savings Bank in the capacity of clerk. His connection with that institution was maintained for







*Robert M. Leach.*



sixteen years, at the end of which time, in 1891, he resigned in order to accept the position as general bookkeeper and teller in the employ of the Fall River National Bank. This last connection was maintained for a period of thirty years. His already long experience, as well as his ability and his faithfulness, soon won promotion for him, and in 1895 he was elected cashier of the bank. In 1914 the cashier was also made chief executive of the institution, and that official position he continued to hold until 1921, when, on account of failing health, he resigned and retired from active service. He still retains his directorship in the bank, but has surrendered executive responsibility.

In addition to his responsibilities in connection with the Fall River National Bank, Mr. Eddy has been and is still officially associated with other enterprises. He is president of the Weetamoe Mills, a cotton cloth manufacturing corporation, of which his father was long president; a member of the board of directors of the Barnard Manufacturing Company; a director of the Massasoit Manufacturing Company; and vice-president of the Troy Co-operative Bank, which he served as secretary-treasurer from 1891 to 1914. He is a member of the Quequechan Club; is secretary of the Fall River Historical Society; and his religious affiliation is with the Ascension Protestant Episcopal Church. Politically he gives his support to the Republican party, and for one term he served as a member of the City Sinking Fund Commission. While keenly alive to all the responsibilities of citizenship and deeply interested in the city which has been his lifetime home, he never has sought political office.

George H. Eddy, Jr., married, in 1878, Alice Stanwood, of Newburyport, Massachusetts.

**ROBERT M. LEACH** is a nationally prominent figure, and with interests centering in the city of Taunton, Massachusetts, his energy and business ability have done much toward spreading the fame of the fine old New England city in which he takes the deepest pride as his place of residence and the site of the industry of which he is a prominent executive. Mr. Leach is a native of New England, and a son of Edward G. and Agnes A. (Robinson) Leach. His father, who was born at Meredith, New Hampshire, was a leading attorney and counsellor-at-law in that State, and the mother, who was born at Mechanic Falls, Maine, is still living.

Robert M. Leach was born at Franklin, New Hampshire, in 1879. His education was begun in the public schools of his birthplace, and following a preparatory course at Phillips-Andover Academy, he attended Dartmouth College, covering the greater part of the classical course. An eminently practical man of tireless energy and dauntless spirit, Mr. Leach entered the organization of the Weir Stove Company, of Taunton, immediately upon the completion of his education. Thereby identifying himself with a long established organization producing one of the necessities of life, and giving the highest

type of excellence to their product, Mr. Leach threw himself heart and soul into the activities of the organization, and beginning in a subordinate position in the shipping department, familiarized himself with every detail of the plant. Every one who knows Robert M. Leach is well aware that it was only such an organization that could hold his interest, for no more splendidly whole-souled man has ever borne a part in the industrial progress of Taunton. His first step upward was to traveling salesman, then sales manager, and eventually he became a member of the corporation, which he has since served as treasurer. The Weir Stove Company has become known the world over as the manufacturers of the "Glenwood Ranges," and its history goes back to a small barn where three young men began making stoves, building on a rough lean-to as a shelter for their melting furnace. Severally equipped as to ability and experience, they were a designer, a foundry foreman and a skilled moulder, and for a time these three comprised the entire executive and operative force. From this humble beginning, carrying as their slogan, "Make Cooking Easy," they developed a prosperous business, and the enterprise was taken up by other hands when the founders finished their life-work, for they had set in motion an industry so greatly worth while that the world was glad to carry on. In his connection with this enterprise Mr. Leach has put into his work the high enthusiasm which inspired these pioneers, and at the same time has made the minutest detail his constant care, if in any way it involved the quality of the product and the entire satisfaction of the customer. Some idea of the growth of the enterprise may be gained from the fact that during one month of the year 1922 the sales of the company were greater than during any full year prior to 1900. It is a conservative statement to say that more than a million homes share the comfort and satisfaction of possessing "Glenwood Ranges."

The years of experience which have placed Robert M. Leach in one of the highest offices of this concern have made him more widely useful, for he has for some time held office in the National Association of Stove Manufacturers. He was formerly vice-president of this organization, but is now its president, and in this position wields a powerful influence for industrial advance in this field throughout the nation. His further business connections include the presidency of the Metropolitan Furniture Company, of Springfield, Massachusetts, and he holds a similar office in the Fowler Furniture Company of Worcester, the Atherton Furniture Company of Lewiston, Maine, and the Atherton Furniture Company of Brockton, Massachusetts, which has branches in Taunton and in Plymouth in this State. He is further a director of the Burpee Furniture Company, of Rockland, Maine, and is identified in the same capacity with the Atherton People's Furniture Company, of Haverhill, Massachusetts, Atherton Furniture Company, of Lowell, Massachusetts, and Waterville, Maine. His local affiliations include a directorship in the Bristol County Trust Company,



and he is a trustee of the Taunton Savings Bank, and trustee of the Morton Hospital.

During the World War Mr. Leach enlisted in the United States Army and was commissioned captain in the ordnance department; also gave his aid and influence to every home war-time endeavor. One of the instances of his interest in the city of Taunton and its people is the Walker Memorial Park, recently completed in what is known as Weir Village, on the river front north of the Weir Store Company, where for nearly a century ungainly grain elevators have stood. The creation of this beauty spot has taken much of Mr. Leach's time for many months, and it is his gift to the city in memory of his honored father-in-law, William E. Walker. The more personal interests of Mr. Leach include membership in Ionic Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; St. Mark's Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; both of Taunton; St. John's Commandery, Knights Templar, of Providence, Rhode Island; and Palestine Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He is a member of the Winthrop Club of Taunton, the Segregansett Country Club, the Rhode Island Country Club, and the Congressional Country Club, of Washington, District of Columbia.

Mr. Leach married, on November 28, 1900, Mary E. Walker, of Taunton, daughter of the late William E. Walker, who died in 1918, and Jennie (Carmichael) Walker. Mr. and Mrs. Leach have three children: Walker, born October 9, 1901, now a student at Dartmouth College, class of 1923; Malcolm, born August 8, 1903, also a student at Dartmouth, class of 1927; and Virginia, born August 19, 1915.

**ELMER TURELL LEARNED, M. D.**—Three doctors by the name of Learned have graced the roster of Fall River physicians. Dr. Ebenezer Turell Learned, 1812-1885; his son, Dr. William Turell Learned, 1861-1922; and his son, Dr. Elmer Turell Learned, 1890, who is the present representative of this distinguished family, skilled in medicine and eminent in citizenship. The Learneds are of ancient Colonial lineage, William Learned and his wife, Goodith, becoming members of the First Church of Charlestown, Massachusetts, in 1632; and William Learned, born in England about the year 1590, died in Charlestown, Massachusetts, March 1, 1646. The line of descent is traced from William Learned through his son, Isaac Learned, who came to New England with his parents about 1630; his son, Deacon Benoni Learned; his son, Thomas Learned; his son, David Learned; his son, Thomas (2) Learned; his son, Samuel Learned; his son, Dr. Ebenezer Turell Learned; his son, Dr. William Turell Learned; his son, Elmer Turell Learned.

Dr. Ebenezer T. Learned, son of Samuel and Lydia (Knapp) Learned, was born in Gardner, Massachusetts, and died at Fall River, Massachusetts, in 1885. He was a graduate of Harvard Medical College, class of 1836, and was in practice at Weymouth, Massachusetts, until 1847, when he

removed to Fall River, where he continued in professional work until his death nearly four decades later. He was the trusted physician of many of the old families of Fall River and was highly regarded as both physician and citizen. For two years he was president of the South Massachusetts Medical Society, of which he became a member in 1839; and a man everywhere honored and respected. He married, May 14, 1835, Mary Matilda White, and they were the parents of eight daughters, and an only son, Dr. William Turell Learned, of whom further.

Dr. William Turell Learned, only son of Dr. Ebenezer and Mary Matilda (White) Learned, was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, March 24, 1861, and died in the city of his birth on August 13, 1922. He was a graduate of Brown University, A. B., 1882, and of the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, M. D., 1885. After a year as interne he began private practice at Fall River, where he was in successful practice for over thirty years, attaining high rank in his profession. He was one of the incorporators of the Fall River Emergency Hospital, was assistant surgeon of the Massachusetts Naval Brigade, located at Fall River, holding the rank of lieutenant. In 1887 he became a member of the Bristol South District Medical Society, nearly half a century later than his father who joined in 1839. He was also a member of the Massachusetts State Medical Society; a member of the Masonic order, affiliated with lodge, chapter and commandery; a Republican in politics; a Congregationalist in religious faith; and a member of the Fall River Country and the Quequechan clubs. Dr. Learned married, in Bridgeton, New Jersey, June 12, 1889, Frances Elmer, born there December 11, 1864, daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Hampton) Elmer. Three children were born to Dr. and Mrs. Learned: Frances White, born in June, 1891; Donald Haywood, born May 1, 1898; and Elmer Turell, of further mention. The family home and Dr. Learned's offices were at No. 46 Franklin street, Fall River, and here Mrs. Learned continues her residence.

Elmer Turell Learned, of the tenth American generation, oldest of the children of Dr. William Turell and Frances (Elmer) Learned, was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, September 5, 1890. His education, which was begun in the public schools, continued through three years of high school, and was followed by a year at Allen Preparatory and four years at Yale University, whence he was graduated, A. B., class of 1912. Then, influenced or inspired by the example of his father and grandfather, he embraced the medical profession, preparing at Harvard Medical School, receiving his M. D. with the class of 1916. He then spent eighteen months in hospital work in Rhode Island, beginning private practice at Fall River, Massachusetts, where for three years he had the benefit of professional association with his eminent father. He continues the general practice of his profession in the city of his birth, the third Dr. Learned to prac-



tice medicine in that city since 1847, two of these, Drs. William T. and Elmer T. Learned, native sons and lifelong residents.

Dr. Learned is a member of the staff of the Truesdale Hospital; served during the War with Germany (1917-18) in the United States Army Medical Corps, ranking as first lieutenant, stationed at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia; is a member of Fall River Medical Society, Massachusetts State Medical Society, and the American Medical Association; is a member of Alpha Kappa Kappa fraternity; Fall River Country Club; and in politics is a Republican. Dr. Learned is unmarried, and his home and offices are at No. 46 Franklin street, Fall River, the old family home, his father's offices being the same as those of his son. This rather unusual instance of family devotion to a profession has been of benefit to Fall River, and in some of the older families of the city the services of Dr. Learned have been called for in each generation.

**CHARLES O. SWEET.**—A well known figure in the city of Attleboro, Massachusetts, is Charles O. Sweet, who is a native of this place and has spent his lifetime here, participating in the constant advance which has developed the small town of his boyhood into one of the most prosperous and enterprising cities of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. His personal energy and initiative have carried him to a high position among the leading manufacturing jewelers of Attleboro, and his breadth of interest and benevolence of spirit have made him a largely significant figure in the civic progress.

Descended from John Sweet, a Bristol county pioneer, Mr. Sweet is a son of Joabert Sweet, who was an early resident of Attleboro and achieved considerable fame in mechanical lines, making a number of important improvements on the spinning and shuttle machinery of his day, and thereby contributing in a marked degree to the advance of the textile industry. The mother, Eliza (Nelson) Sweet, was born at Lyme, New Hampshire, and was a direct descendant of Lord Nelson, of Trafalgar.

Charles O. Sweet was born at Attleboro, Massachusetts, November 14, 1848. His early education was received in the common schools of this community, and in the year 1865 he was graduated from Schofield Commercial School, of Providence, Rhode Island. Two years later he attended the Connecticut Literary Institute, at Suffield, Connecticut. With this comprehensive preparation for his career, Mr. Sweet entered the business world as an office assistant with the firm of Bates & Bacon, of Attleboro, and his business ability and interest in his work carried him in their employ to the position of superintendent of the entire business in the twenty years during which he was connected with the firm. In the year 1889, in association with H. T. Regnall and J. A. Bigney, Mr. Sweet formed a partnership under the firm name of Regnall, Bigney & Company. Nine years later the enterprise suffered total loss by fire in the historic conflagration, which destroyed a considerable section of the business part of the town, but their recovery from

this blow was remarkable, for their business was re-established within a week. In the year 1903 Charles O. Sweet resigned from this partnership to form a corporation in company with his son, Ervin Vial Sweet, under the firm name of C. O. Sweet & Son Company. Under this title they began the manufacture of a special and attractive line of popular priced jewelry for ladies, including pins of many kinds, waist sets, cuff buttons, hat pins, bracelets, *et cetera*. The reputation of this concern, which was founded on the quality and finish of its products, as well as upon the business integrity of its personnel, has grown and widened until now it is a leading concern in this general field. Keeping in touch with the movement of the times, they have frequently brought out novelties, catering to fads of the moment, and their principal lines are always of the choicest design and the finest workmanship. The present personnel of this organization is as follows: Ervin Vial Sweet, president; Charles O. Sweet, secretary and treasurer. The plant of the company covers a ground area of 50 by 140 feet, and its location on Union street, Attleboro, is an advantageous one. They ship their goods to all parts of the United States and do more or less of an export trade. They employ 100 hands and occupy a floor and one-half of the present building.

Broadly interested in every phase of public affairs, although never a seeker after the honors of office, Charles O. Sweet has for many years been one of the useful men of this city, devoting much of his time to those avenues of advance which carry little in the way of recompense beyond the satisfaction of civic duty performed. He has long been a member of the Attleboro Chamber of Commerce, but declined the office of president of that body, although he has served as first vice-president and as a member of the board of directors. He was elected to the City Council and served many times as president *pro tem*, also has represented the Council for a number of years on the board of managers for the Sturdy Memorial Hospital. He was made a delegate to the laying of the corner stone of the new Attleboro post-office, which took place July 4, 1916, representing the City Council on that occasion. During the last year of the existence of this body he served as its president (1919), this making a total of five years during which he had filled this office, and for several years has acted as chairman of the town finance committee, one of the most important committees of this body. Mr. Sweet's public usefulness goes back, however, to earlier years, and in 1875 he participated in the organization of the Attleboro improvement district, which with its later consolidation with the water district formed the fire district, of which he was the first secretary, later serving as treasurer. When Attleboro voted to become a city, in November, 1914, Mr. Sweet was elected counselor-at-large to serve for one year, taking up the duties of office when the city charter went into effect, January 1, 1915. He was twice re-elected for a term of two years each, and also served as chairman of the finance committee of the Council. Meanwhile, at



the special meeting held here on December 4, 1914, for the election of city officers, Charles O. Sweet was tendered the mayoralty by a group of citizens, but very definitely discouraged this movement and threw his influence in favor of the nomination of Harold E. Smith, who was made the first mayor of the city of Attleboro. Nevertheless Mr. Sweet felt that in considering him for this honor the people of Attleboro had yielded to him the most gratifying distinction. His own remark at the time is worthy of perpetuation:

The fact that I was considered and urged to run for the first mayor of Attleboro, where I have been brought up and lived all my life, is highly pleasing and gratifying to me and a sufficient honor. I have no particular ambition for the office. I have always worked for the best interests of the Town and shall work for what I consider the best interests of the City, regardless of any personal gain.

In moral uplift work and benevolent advance, Mr. Sweet has long been a leader of progress. He took an uncompromising stand for prohibition when still a young man, and about forty years ago was brought forward as prohibition candidate for representative to the State Legislature, and although there was no possibility of his election he ran ahead of his ticket and received a very large vote. During the activities of the early temperance societies, the Good Templars and the Temple of Honor, he was prominent in these organizations and an office holder in both. For many years he has been interested in the Woodlawn Cemetery Association, and is one of the charter members of the old Kirk Cemetery, for which cemetery his pioneer ancestor, John Sweet, first gave the land to the little village of Attleboro and in which yard several of his ancestors are buried, Mr. Sweet himself being the eighth generation from the pioneer; he is serving as president of both cemeteries at the present time (1923).

He has for many years been an associate member of William A. Streeter Post, No. 145, Grand Army of the Republic, and a worker for the interests, not only of the organization, but of the rapidly thinning ranks of men who form it. He is a member of the Massachusetts State Society, the Sons of the American Revolution, and of the Old Colony Historical Society, of Taunton, Massachusetts. He has always given much attention to historical matters and to the preservation of the records of Colonial and Revolutionary activities. Fraternally he is a member of Ezekiel Bates Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; Bristol Commandery, Knights Templar; Orient Lodge, No. 165, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Attleboro Lodge, No. 1014, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; Attleboro Council, No. 366, Royal Arcanum, and he is past presiding officer of the organization last named. From childhood Mr. Sweet has been affiliated with religious advance, and was a regular attendant of the Second Congregational Church and Sunday school until the formation of the Methodist Episcopal church and Sunday school, and from that time he continued with that organization until the founding of the Pilgrim Church Society, when he became a

charter member of that body and has now for several years been president.

Charles O. Sweet was married in 1869 to Elizabeth J. (Cooper) Wallace, of Attleboro, daughter of John Cooper, and they have one son: Ervin Vial Sweet, associated with his father in business, a sketch of whom follows.

**ERVIN VIAL SWEET.**—A prominent figure in the business life of Attleboro, Massachusetts, is Ervin Vial Sweet, who is a native of this city and has spent his lifetime in the industrial activities of this and a nearby State. Mr. Sweet is a son of Charles O. and Elizabeth J. (Wallace) Sweet, both of Attleboro, a review of his life appearing in the preceding sketch.

Ervin Vial Sweet was born at Attleboro, January 25, 1870. His education was begun in the local public schools, and he later attended Mowry & Goff Business School, of Providence, Rhode Island, also Bryant & Stratton Business College, of that city. His first industrial experience was in the employ of the Brown & Sharpe Manufacturing Company, of Providence, Rhode Island, which affiliation he formed for the purpose of gaining a thorough knowledge of mechanics from the practical viewpoint of experience. Thereafter returning to Attleboro, Mr. Sweet learned the trade of pearl cutting with the firm of J. W. Luther & Company, with which house he remained for two years, and he also learned the trade of enameling with E. T. Bright. He then was active for a time with various concerns until he became affiliated with Reganall, Bigney & Company, with which concern he was active as a salesman on the road. With this breadth of experience, Mr. Sweet associated himself with his father in the year 1903 as a member of the firm of C. O. Sweet & Son, and during the twenty years which has since elapsed he has been a definite factor in the progress and success of this industrial organization, an account of which is given in the preceding sketch.

Ervin V. Sweet holds a position of more than usual prominence in the business life of Attleboro, and is a member of the New England Jewelers' and Silversmiths' Association, also of the Attleboro Chamber of Commerce. In political matters he supports the Republican party, but takes only the interest of the citizen in public advance. During the World War he gave his time principally to the activities of the moment in support of the American Expeditionary Forces, and was a leading worker in Liberty Loan drives, also in the efforts for the Red Cross and Salvation army. In recognition of his services in this period of stress the United States Government sent him a certificate. The local benevolences have always held his sympathy and commanded his aid, and for some years he was chairman of the Hayward athletic field. Science, invention and many other interests come within the scope of Mr. Sweet's attention. He is a member of the Geographical Society, and the Boston Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. He is affiliated with Orient Lodge, No. 165, Independent



Order of Odd Fellows; Gideon M. Hoton Encampment, No. 80, of the same order; Poconoket Tribe, No. 38, Improved Order of Red Men, of which he is past sachem; and Attleboro Lodge, No. 1014, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of which he is past exalted ruler (1919-1920) and also member of the Grand Lodge. His clubs are the Highland, Country, Ogallala, and the West Side. Mr. Sweet's religious affiliation is with the Congregational church.

Ervin Vial Sweet married (first) Maude Cunliffe. He married (second) Bertha A. Purdy (September 20, 1893), daughter of John and Mary (Frazer) Purdy, and they have one daughter, Elsie Evelyn, wife of George Osterguy.

**ARBA N. LINCOLN.**—For fifty years an honored and distinguished member of the Massachusetts bar, and during almost the entire period of his active career a resident of Fall River, and a practicing attorney and counselor-at-law of this city, Arba N. Lincoln was one of the foremost figures in professional circles in Bristol county, Massachusetts. His death, which occurred in the fall of 1922, removed from the city of Fall River one of the most beneficially constructive forces which had ever borne a part in civic, professional and social advance. Mr. Lincoln was the head of the firm of Lincoln & Hood, one of the foremost legal firms in this part of the State of Massachusetts, in which organization his son, Carl Kimball Lincoln, now succeeds him. A native of Sherburne, Rutland county, Vermont, Arba N. Lincoln was a son of Charles F. and Eliza (Avery) Lincoln, both members of noted families of the State of Vermont.

Arba N. Lincoln was born at Somerset, Vermont, June 3, 1849. His early education was received in the local schools, and when still scarcely more than a child, he decided to make the profession of the law the field of his life-work. To this purpose he adhered as a young man, covering preparatory courses at Woodstock, Vermont and Haverhill, Massachusetts. Reading law under competent preceptorship, he was admitted to practice in Vermont in 1872, and was professionally active at Woodstock for about one year. Then admitted to the bar of Massachusetts, he removed to Haverhill, where he practiced until 1874, when he settled permanently in Fall River. Opening offices in the Granite block, Mr. Lincoln went forward independently with marked success until 1887, at which time he became associated in partnership with Alfred H. Hood. The firm of Lincoln & Hood became one of the most widely known in the State of Massachusetts and was influential in countless ways in the advancement of the city of Fall River and of Bristol county. Mr. Lincoln's practice became more extensive as a counsellor rather than as a trial lawyer, and the firm, in addition to its extensive activities in the law, became well known in the insurance field and in the executing of loans on various securities. As he gained breadth of experience in his chosen field of endeavor, Mr. Lincoln won increasing prominence in affiliated and contemporary lines

of effort and became a very influential figure in public life, although except in one instance, he never accepted public office, and this instance was his appointment as special justice of the Second District Court of Bristol County, and in this capacity he served for a number of years. Judge Lincoln's service on the bench was marked not only with keen perceptions and exhaustive knowledge of the law, but with the judicial mind, tempered by the great benevolence which was one of the striking characteristics of the man.

Public life was not to Mr. Lincoln an arena of political strife, but a door to opportunities of broader and higher service. He was one of the leading spirits in the formation of the Fall River Chamber of Commerce, and the early years of its activity were carried forward along lines more or less definitely mapped out by him. Always, however, Mr. Lincoln was an influence rather than a voice in public affairs. He gave of his best to civic advance, choosing to give the place of leadership to others rather than to seek to create a following for himself. In every phase of community endeavor he bore a helpful part and was for years identified with the financial world as an organizer and member of the board of directors of the Fall River Coöperative Bank, which received its charter in 1888. Long an influential member of the Fall River Bar Association, his fraternal affiliations included membership in Hope Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; and the Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, of which he was past high priest. Few men of such wide and varied business activities retain in so great a degree as did Mr. Lincoln the modest tastes of the lover of nature and the keen appreciation of all things worthy as did this man among men. Greatly interested in travel, he made extended trips as frequently as his professional responsibilities would permit and took the keenest delight in all manifestations of the beauties of nature. Flowers, shrubs and trees were his special delight, and on the grounds of his beautiful home he personally gave a great deal of attention to the growth of rare and lovely varieties. Books were his frequent companions, and he was a discriminating, as well as an extensive reader. His home was his sanctuary and there he spent his leisure hours. There he answered the call which comes once to every man and which closes the active chapters of his life, leaving only the fragrant and treasured memories. Not even Mr. Lincoln himself was aware that his heart was affected in any way, but on October 12, 1922, after having spent an evening at a bank directors' meeting, he rose to the leisure of a holiday and was considering with Mrs. Lincoln various plans for spending the day together. He was suddenly stricken and instantly died. It was true that he passed out of life as he would have chosen to do, merely stepping from the activities of a serious and useful life into the future world, but the shock to the community was great. When the news was spread about that Mr. Lincoln was no more, friends, associates and the general public sustained a shock of consternation. So useful and



beneficent had been his life, his name had come to bear a direct significance to every citizen of Fall River, and his loss was deeply felt in every circle where he had been known. The current press of the hour commented upon his demise with the most sincere expressions of esteem and regret. One Fall River paper said, editorially:

Fall River is shocked and saddened by the sudden death of one of its prominent and elder men of affairs. With scarcely a moment's forewarning, Arba N. Lincoln has been called from the midst of his family circle and from his professional activities. \* \* \* For many years Mr. Lincoln had exerted a salutary influence on our public life. His spacious and beautiful home had been a center of benign influence in the community. From it had gone forth many silent benefactions, manifesting sympathy with the suffering and sorrowing, and illustrating the Christian law of life: "Bear ye one another's burdens."

He was ever a friend and promoter of that which seemed good in the community life as well as hostile to that of the contrary character. A great lover of the beautiful in nature, he kept himself surrounded with some of its choice treasures, which gave delight to others than their owner, as well as to him. A benevolent, upright, quiet life has come to a sudden end on earth, leaving a memory redolent of good deeds and a friendly, Christian spirit.

Arba N. Lincoln married, in Haverhill, Massachusetts, in 1876, Mira Kimball, and they were the parents of five children: Ernest A.; Grace; Ralph, deceased; Kenneth B.; and Carl K. The family have always been members of the Congregational church.

**JOSHUA E. CRANE.**—For twenty-eight years librarian of the Taunton Public Library, Joshua E. Crane is one of the best known figures in this city, and his long devotion to the work of this institution has counted as a broadly constructive and beneficent influence in the community. Widely read and possessing a scholarly mind, Mr. Crane's discriminating taste in literature has always kept the standards of the library at the highest level, and both as an official of marked usefulness and as a private citizen he is sincerely esteemed by all who know him.

The Crane family is a very old and honored one in the State of Massachusetts, and this branch of the family is descended from Henry Crane of Dorchester, Massachusetts. John Crane, his son, was born in 1658; and married Hannah Leonard, daughter of James and Hannah Leonard of Taunton. They became settlers in the South Purchase of Taunton, and died in that part of Dighton which is now Berkley, John Crane passing away in 1716. In direct line of descent Barzillai Crane was a prominent citizen of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, and married Lydia Eddy. Joshua Eddy Crane, son of these parents, and father of the subject of this review, was born and died in Bridgewater. He married Lucy A. Reed.

Joshua E. Crane, son of Joshua Eddy and Lucy A. (Reed) Crane, was born in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, October 1, 1850. His early education was acquired in the local public schools, then he pursued a course of four years at the Bridgewater Academy, and in the year 1868 entered Brown University at Providence, Rhode Island, from which he

was graduated in the class of 1872. During the next scholastic year Mr. Crane taught a public school in Duxbury, then for two successive years was a preceptor of the Bridgewater Academy. In the year 1876 Mr. Crane went abroad to take up the duties of an exacting and largely responsible position to which he had been chosen, that of principal of the English preparatory department of the Syrian Protestant College of Beirut, Syria. He served faithfully and well for a period of three years, then returned to his native land and accepted a position as an instructor in Latin at the Albany Academy at Albany, New York. He was thus active until 1884, also during this period doing much private tutoring. In the year 1884 Mr. Crane became librarian of the Young Men's Association of Albany, and served for three consecutive years thenceforth, then for two years at a later date (1890-92). The intervening years up to 1895 were occupied in teaching, principally in Portland and in Bristol.

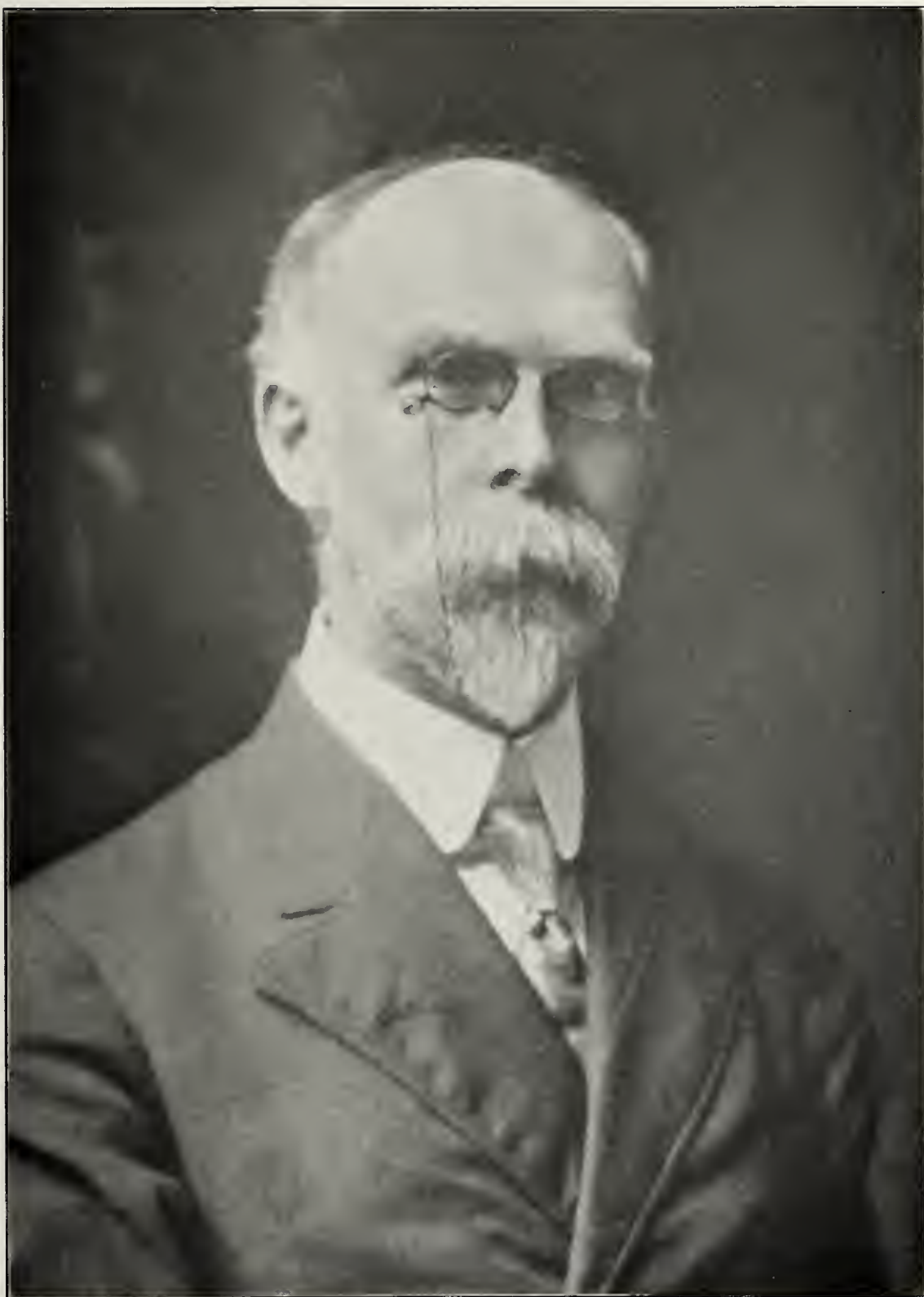
In 1895 Mr. Crane was elected librarian of the Taunton Public Library, in which connection he still ably serves. Alert to the movement of the times, and possessing the ability to take ever fresh and inspiring viewpoints in his survey of life, Mr. Crane undoubtedly has many years of usefulness yet before him, although his venerable and benevolent head is crowned with gray and his retrospect covers many decades. Valuing deeply the lessons of the past and the permanent records of early times in America, Mr. Crane long ago identified himself with the Old Colony Historical Society and the old Bridgewater Historical Society, and in both these organizations ably serves in an official capacity.

Mr. Crane married, on January 1, 1884, Katherine Perkins, daughter of Henry and Amelia (Sherman) Perkins, of Bridgewater, and they are the parents of one daughter, Clara Whitney Crane, a graduate of Radcliffe College, class of 1914.

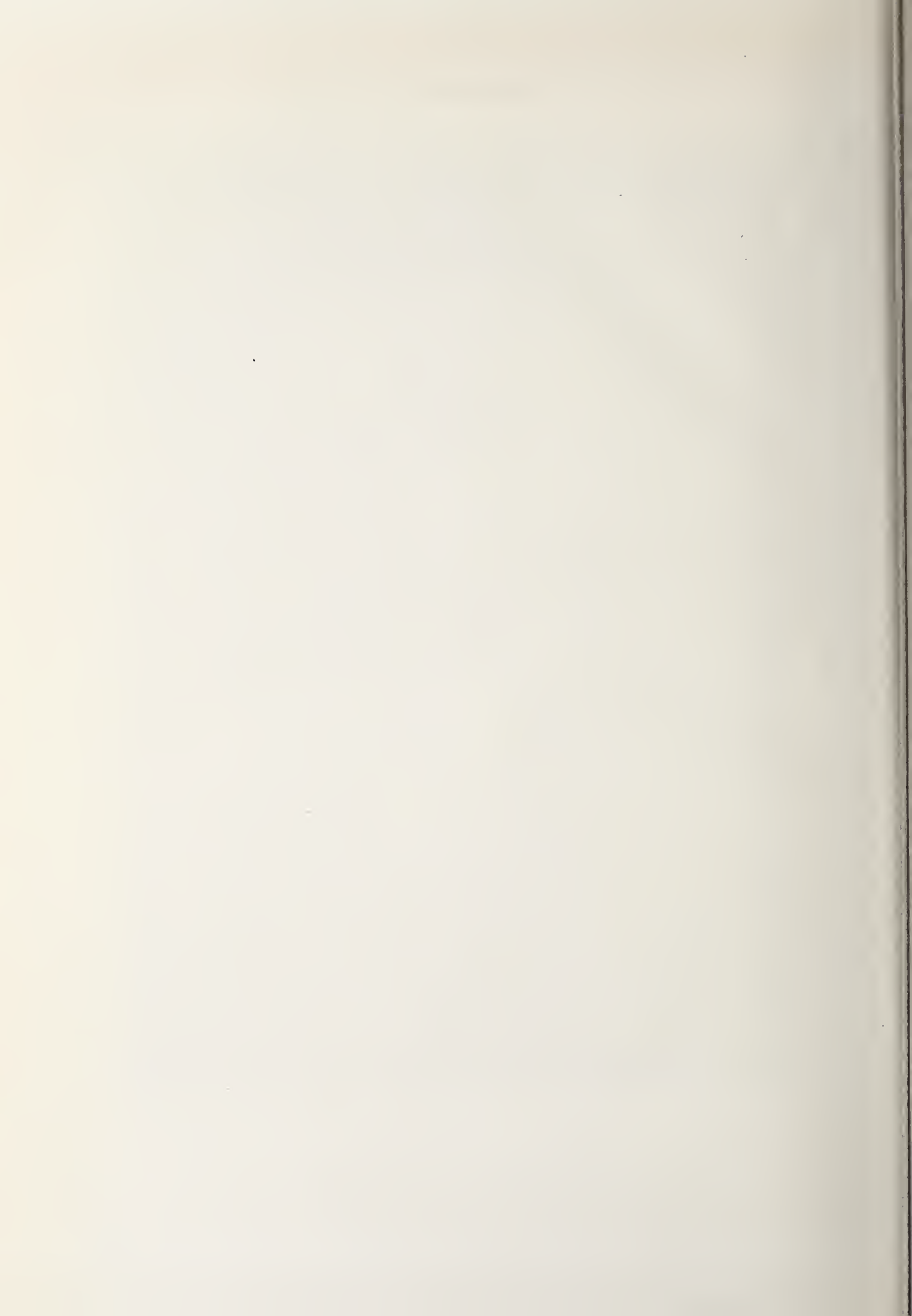
**JOSEPH LEONARD ANTHONY** is a native son of the Old Bay State and "still in the harness" after a lifetime of splendid business activity within her borders. The Anthony name has been a conspicuous one in New England for more than two and three-quarters centuries. The first member to arrive was John Antonie, as he wrote it, who came from England in the barge "Hercules," April 16, 1634. He married Susan Potter, and from them sprang a numerous and influential family.

Joseph Leonard Anthony, son of Joseph S. and Sarah A. (Wood) Anthony, was born in Boston, Massachusetts, March 26, 1866. In 1868 Providence, Rhode Island, became the family home, and in 1878 the family returned to Massachusetts, locating in Taunton, Bristol county. There he completed grammar and high school courses of public school study, entering the employ of the Mason Machine Works at the age of sixteen, as apprentice, being employed a greater part of this time in the mechanical engineering department. He continued with this company for four years, then spent three years in White Pine, Gunnison county, Colorado, engaged in silver





*Joshua E. Crane*





mining and ranching. In 1891 he returned to Taunton, which city has since been his home.

Upon his return to Taunton in 1891 Mr. Anthony entered the employ of the Weir Stove Company, beginning as shipping clerk and working his way to the presidency, his career being largely made in the service of that company, although he holds close relation with other important Taunton corporations. He remained in the shipping room until appointed superintendent of the plant in 1894. In 1908 he was elected a member of the board of directors; in 1918 was elected vice-president; and in November, 1919, was elected president of the company. He has now been associated with the company for thirty-two years and has been one of the prime factors in its growth and development, having been connected with the management since 1894.

Mr. Anthony was interested in the purchase of the Magee Furnace Company. The company was moved to Taunton, where a new plant was erected for its accommodation, and the company renamed the Magee Furnace Company, Inc. Mr. Anthony served as its president until he sold his interest in 1920. He is also a director of the Bristol County Trust Company, and a trustee of the Bristol County Savings Bank, of Taunton; a director of the Weir Co-operative Bank, East Taunton Co-operative Bank, the Old Colony Co-operative Bank, all of Taunton; the Atherton Furniture Company, of Brockton, Massachusetts; the Atherton Furniture Company, of Lewiston, Maine; the Atherton Furniture Company, of Waterville, Maine; the Metropolitan Furniture Company, of Springfield, Massachusetts; and the Fowler Furniture Company, of Worcester, Massachusetts. Since May, 1910, he has been a member of the Conference Committee of the Stove Founders' National Defense Association, and first vice-president of the same association since 1915; is a member of the General Executive Committee, and chairman of the First District Committee.

In politics Mr. Anthony is an Independent, and served two years under the new city charter as a member of the first single board. He was a member of the Municipal Electric Plant Commission, and aids in a public-spirited manner all movements for city betterment. He is a member of Ionic Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; St. Mark's Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; St. John's Commandery, Knights Templar, of Providence, Rhode Island; and Aleppo Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, of Boston. His clubs are the Rotary and Winthrop, of Taunton. He is a member of St. Thomas' Episcopal Church of Taunton, but also serves as a member of the board of trustees of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of that city.

On February 22, 1886, Mr. Anthony married Fannie R. Carpenter, daughter of William B. and Abby J. (Robinson) Carpenter, of Taunton, Massachusetts. Mr. and Mrs. Anthony are the parents of four children: 1. Luther J., now superintendent of the Weir Stove Company. 2. Bertha C., married William L. White, Jr. 3. William R., now foreman

of the Weir Stove Company's enameling plant. 4. John D., now shipper of the Weir Stove Company.

**JOHN TUTTLE SWIFT, LL.B.**—The name of John Tuttle Swift is one of large significance to the city of Fall River and to the county of Bristol, and in the broader fields of financial advance he stands among the leading figures as treasurer of the Citizens' Savings Bank, of Fall River, one of the substantial and progressive institutions of the East. A member of one of the most prominent families of Fall River, Mr. Swift has won high rank professionally, as well as in the capacity of a successful business executive, and his public services are a record of eminent usefulness.

John T. Swift is a son of Marcus George Barker and Mary Duncan (Milne) Swift, his father one of the most noteworthy lawyers of this city a generation ago, a man whose comparatively early death, on February 21, 1902, was one of the most regrettable events of the early years of the present century in local circles.

John Tuttle Swift was born at Fall River, Massachusetts, November 15, 1877. His early education was received in the public schools of his birthplace, and he is a graduate of the B. M. C. Durfee High School, class of 1897. He attended Williams College as a member of the class of 1901, then spent several years in the business world before taking up his preparation for the profession of the law. First engaged in newspaper work, he was later employed in the Pocasset National Bank and the Citizens' Savings Bank, then was successively identified with the banking and brokerage office of George N. Durfee, and the cotton and cloth brokerage house of Tuttle, Hurley & Company, of Fall River. In the year 1907 Mr. Swift entered George Washington University, at Washington, District of Columbia, where he took up the study of law, and upon his graduation with the class of 1910 received his degree of Bachelor of Laws. Within the year Mr. Swift began practice in Fall River as a member of the firm of Swift, Grime & Swift, now Swift, Grime, Buffinton & Crossley, of which his brother, the Hon. James M. Swift, formerly attorney general of Massachusetts, was and still is the senior member. Mr. Swift enjoyed a very extensive law practice, and was particularly active in the trial of civil jury cases as counsel for street railways, insurance companies and corporations throughout Bristol county. During the period of his activity in the law Mr. Swift served as a trustee and counsel for the Citizens' Savings Bank, and upon the death of William F. Winter, former treasurer of this institution, Mr. Swift was requested by the board of trustees to succeed him as treasurer and executive head of the bank. Accepting this position, he withdrew from the active practice of the law in order to devote the necessary time and attention to the duties and responsibilities involved. The prosperity of the institution under his guiding hand, and its constantly greater importance in its field, are facts which definitely appraise Mr. Swift's ability and his grasp of



financial affairs. A man of the loftiest ideals, still possessing the broadly practical qualities which count for success in any endeavor, he commands the utmost esteem and confidence not only of his associates but of the people generally. He is otherwise affiliated in the business world with the Massasoit Manufacturing Company, one of Fall River's largest textile corporations, of which he is president. He is also a director of the Massasoit-Pocasset National Bank.

The public services through which Mr. Swift has contributed to the advance of the city, the county and the Commonwealth, have followed along lines parallel with his private endeavors. While attending law school in Washington he served as secretary of the committee on merchant marine and fisheries of the House of Representatives by appointment of Congressman William S. Greene, of this district, who was at that time chairman of the committee. In the year 1913, by appointment of the Massachusetts Supreme Court, Mr. Swift served as one of three commissioners to hear evidence and assess damages to property owners, resulting from the building of the Larz Anderson or Stadium bridge, so-called, over the Charles river, from Boston to Cambridge. In June of 1917 Mr. Swift was appointed by Governor Samuel W. McCall as a member of the Fall River Board of Police and License Commissioners, and after serving for a term of three years he was re-appointed in 1920 for a further term of similar length by Governor Calvin Coolidge. In June, 1923, he was re-appointed by Governor Channing H. Cox for a further term of three years. Mr. Swift's political convictions align with the principles and policies of the Republican party, but he has never accepted candidacy for an elective office.

In military circles Mr. Swift is well known as a former member of the 12th Company, Coast Artillery Corps, Massachusetts State Militia, in which he held the rank of first lieutenant until his resignation in 1913. During the World War he served as first lieutenant of one of the local companies of the Massachusetts State Guard (infantry). Also, following the intervention of the United States in European affairs, he was counsel for the custodian of alien property for the city of Fall River and vicinity, and was an associate member of the local legal advisory board. Mr. Swift is affiliated fraternally with King Philip Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; Fall River Lodge of Perfection; Samuel C. Lawrence Council, Princes of Jerusalem; St. Andrew's Chapter, Rose Croix; and Massachusetts Consistory, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, in which he holds the thirty-second degree. He is a member of the Fall River Chamber of Commerce, the Fall River Bar Association, and the Massachusetts Bar Association. He is a director of the Quequechan Club and the Fall River Rotary Club, and is a member of the Acoaxet Country Club and the Massachusetts Savings Bank Officers' Club, of this last named organization now (1923) being vice-president. He is a member of the First Congregational Church of Fall River.

John T. Swift married, January 28, 1914, Julia Beaumont Gilroy, of Lebanon, Pennsylvania, and they are the parents of one son, John Beaumont, born April 28, 1915. The residence of the family is at No. 294 French street, Fall River, and their summer home is at Puncatest Neck, Tiverton, Rhode Island, on the shore of the Seaconnet river. The Fall River home has been in the family since 1883.

**CITIZENS' SAVINGS BANK OF FALL RIVER.**—Few institutions of the East can boast a finer or more perfectly equipped building than that which stands at the corner of Main and Bedford streets, Fall River, and is known as the home of the Citizens' Savings Bank. Built entirely of granite, this structure is unique in this city in this feature, and its graceful, yet massive, design makes it a building in which the entire community may take pride.

The history of the Citizens' Savings Bank is a record of the high ideals of devoted executives, among whom should be mentioned Joseph Osborn, Weaver Osborn, John C. Milne, presidents, and Edward E. Hathaway and William F. Winter, treasurers, all deceased, who have opened to the people of Fall River opportunities of economic security and independence such as form a vital factor in the life of every civic body. The recent opening of the institution in its new building, which took place on April 7, 1923, inaugurated a new epoch in its history and gave the people of Fall River a closer familiarity with its progress. Seventy-two years ago this institution was founded, in what was then a part of Tiverton, Rhode Island, its first corporate name being "The Savings Bank of Tiverton," the board of governors comprising: Oliver Chace, Jr.; Cook Borden; Thomas Borden; and Clark Manchester; their several associates completing the personnel of the enterprise. The amount of deposits receivable was at first limited to the sum of \$400,000. The deposits now exceed \$12,000,000.

The bank was definitely organized November 15, 1851, Joseph Osborn being elected president; Charles F. Searle, secretary; William H. Brackett, treasurer. A board of fifteen trustees was created, also a board of investment, the latter comprising Cook Borden; Oliver Chace, Jr.; Weaver Osborn; William C. Chapin; and Samuel Hathaway. Opened for business on December 1, 1851, the first deposit was received on the same day. The first location of this institution was at the corner of South Main and Rodman streets, and they removed to rooms in the same building theretofore occupied by the Pocasset Bank, in 1854. The division of the town of Tiverton ensued two years later, this location being within the portion which became Fall River, and on March 15, 1862, the change of the State boundary line made this a Massachusetts bank. It was at this time that the present name was adopted. Within the month the bank was removed to the City Hall building, then generally known as the Market building, and there it remained until its removal to the structure recently vacated. The site of this building



cost \$15,000 at the time of purchase, more than a half century ago, and its present value cannot readily be computed. Additional property was acquired in the year 1920, and by an intensely interesting process of engineering the fine granite outside walls of the second and third floors were retained as a part of the new building, and determined the general style of architecture. The present new, modern building stands as a monument to the economic prosperity and advance of the city of Fall River, and the impetus given to the institution is most gratifying to the official personnel of the bank and to the community.

To the indomitable energy and progressive ideals of John T. Swift, the treasurer and active chief executive of the institution, the accomplishment of this end was largely due. Mr. Swift succeeded Mr. Winter as treasurer in February, 1919. And in its stately beauty it exemplifies the highest type of modern architecture, as applied to the banking system of today. Associated with the treasurer in this momentous undertaking was a building committee composed of President Henry H. Earl and members of the Board of Investment. From the Tavernelle marble from northern Italy, the delicate rose color of which is one of the most attractive features of the great counting room, to the massive, ingeniously devised vault, perfection has been held as the standard. The comfort of the patrons has been amply provided for as well as the absolute safety of the funds entrusted to the care of the bank. The latter being the most vital consideration, the marvels of the devices which insure it are of the greatest interest to the history of the institution. No generalities, however, could give to the depositors the feeling of security gained from the technicalities on this point published in the Fall River "Evening News" of April 9, 1923, following the opening of the new building to the public, as follows:

Incorporated in the center of the concrete walls of this vault is a line of heavy steel railroad rails set vertically and spaced close together. On either side of these rails and about two inches inside the concrete walls is a row of three-quarters inch steel rods set six inches apart, and the exterior row is staggered with the interior row. These are crossed horizontally every six inches by three-quarters inch rods, which provide criss-cross gridiron of steel on either side of the central line of rails—all of which goes to make up an impregnable steel and concrete barrier—one that will resist the best known methods of attack for many hours. The roof and floors of the vault are further protected by the introduction of heavy structural steel eye beams which would prevent the crushing in of the vault if, during a conflagration, the entire building were to fall in upon it.

Before the concrete was poured in and after the steel frame work was in place a net work of lead-covered cable was laid in by the Bankers' Electric Protective Association so that no space over six inches wide in floors, roof and walls remained unprotected. If in drilling through the wall one of these cables is severed it causes the burglar alarm to ring. In addition to this alarm system for the vaults there is a day raid system consisting of buttons located at tellers' windows, also on the several desks throughout the bank, which provide instant call in case of emergency of any kind, to the central police station, as well as to the burglar alarm on the exterior. This feature is part of the communication system which is very complete, and includes telephone services, bells, buzzers, etc.

The entire vault is further protected by a steel lining covering the floors, walls and ceiling, at either end of which are placed the two 12-inch burglar-proof doors, set in heavy

vestibules. One of the doors opens from the working space into the security section, which is separated from the safe deposit portion by polished steel grille and gate. The other door opens into the vault from the safe deposit department. Each door and vestibule is made up of steel plates which will resist drilling and also the oxy-acetylene blow torch. These doors are hung on heavy Crane hinges which allow the door to swing to a position exactly in front of the opening, and then driven back into the steel vestibule by means of the pressure system, controlled by a steel wheel and gears. This insures a perfect fit. Four jeweled time lock watch movements are included in each door. They govern the releasing mechanism of the door and are set to run to the required number of hours—the door cannot be opened until at least one of these four movements has completed its run as set by the officer in charge. It is, therefore, impossible for a lockout to occur unless all four movements in any one door fail to make the complete run.

These ponderous doors are so perfectly adjusted that very little effort is required to open and close them. This is remarkable when one considers that each door, with its vestibule, weighs in the neighborhood of ten tons.

Yet it is true that all this mechanical perfection would be meaningless without the implicit confidence of the people in the men who govern it. The personnel of the Citizens' Savings Bank is and always has been made up of names long familiarly known in the business world of Fall River, men whose activities have created industries, developed prosperity throughout the community, and led the civic body ever forward. The present officers are Henry H. Earl, president; vice-presidents, James M. Swift and Samuel W. Hathaway; clerk of corporation, Joseph D. Milne; treasurer, John T. Swift; assistant treasurer, Robert C. Crapo; trustees, Samuel W. Hathaway, Henry H. Earl, James E. Osborn, Patrick J. Hurley, William B. M. Chace, Charles E. Mills, Joseph D. Milne, James M. Swift, Henry F. Grinnell, John T. Swift, James C. Brady, William P. Thomas, Henry Ashworth, William E. Fawcett, Judson C. Mackenzie, John H. Holt, Danforth H. Hathaway, Leeds Burchard, Benjamin Earl, Edward F. Hanify and Armel L. Audet; board of investment, Henry H. Earl, Samuel W. Hathaway, James M. Swift, P. J. Hurley, and William E. Fawcett; auditing committee, Henry F. Grinnell, James C. Brady, and William F. Thomas.

**J. FRANK MASON.**—As president and treasurer of the Mason Box Company, of North Attleboro, Massachusetts, J. Frank Mason holds a broadly prominent position in the industrial world of this city. In every branch of civic and welfare endeavor he also takes a deep interest and lends his influence to all effort which counts for public advance. Mr. Mason comes of a very prominent family of the Attleboros, which settled in Bristol county in early Colonial days, and is a son of Thomas F. Mason, who was born in Attleboro, and was active as a jeweller until 1893, and then connected with his sons, J. Frank and Charles O. His death occurred in 1905. The mother, Harriet J. (Collins) Mason, was born in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, and died in 1917.

J. Frank Mason was born at North Attleboro, Massachusetts, July 20, 1862. His education was begun in the local public schools, and he is a graduate of the Providence High School, class of 1877. Later preparing for a commercial career



with a comprehensive course at the Bryant & Stratton Business College, at Providence, Mr. Mason began life as an employee of R. F. Simmons & Company, of North Attleboro, prominent manufacturing jewellers of that day. He later identified himself with Mason, Draper & Company in a similar line of activity, remaining for ten years as bookkeeper and salesman. Thereafter for about two years Mr. Mason was affiliated with D. F. Briggs as foreman of his plant. With this excellent training and practical experience, Mr. Mason then became interested with his brother, Charles O. Mason, in the founding of the present enterprise under the firm name of the Mason Box Company. They took up the manufacture of paper boxes in a small way, converting a little building in the rear of their home into a factory. A few girls were employed, and the scope of distribution was limited to the local trade. Upon this foundation the present great interest has been developed, the firm declaring as their inviolable policy "fair dealings with all customers, originality and quality." The splendid modern factory which they now own and occupy has a floor space of 55,000 square feet, and is equipped with the very latest machinery, many of their machines being of their own design and invention. They make all kinds and descriptions of jewelry boxes, paper display cases of every sort for jewelry and silverware, express boxes, and so forth, one of their specialties being a superior and now widely popular mailing box. Aside from their regular lines they frequently bring out novelties to meet the display needs for a passing fad, in fact in every way meet all the requirements of the jewelry trade in the way of containers, display equipment and the like. They have a complete jewelry card department, and a very important branch is their display pad department, and they further produce leather novelties. Their printing plant is fully complete, also their steel die printing department. All these comprise the North Attleboro factory, where they employ about 300 people; they also have a branch factory at No. 69 Sprague street, Providence, Rhode Island, where 120 hands are employed; and they have an office in New York City, No. 6 Church street. Their products are sent to all parts of the United States, and they are one of the foremost American concerns in this field.

Mr. Mason is further affiliated with the business life of Bristol county as a director of the Manufacturers' National Bank of North Attleboro, Massachusetts, also of the Attleboro Savings Bank. He is a member of the Manufacturing Jewellers' and Silversmiths' Association, the National Association of Paper Box Manufacturers, and the North Attleboro Board of Trade. During the World War he served as chairman of the manufacturing jewellers division of the Liberty Loan committee, and in all branches of home war activity gave his best endeavors to promote the welfare of the various causes promoted. He was very active in the sale of Liberty Bonds and in Red Cross work, and his automobile was always at the disposal of the Four Minute speakers of that trying period, Mr. Mason person-

ally transporting these workers for the general good, introducing them in many cases to the assembled people, and doing everything in his power to forward their work.

Mr. Mason has always stood for civic improvement and progress, and for every movement which counts for the welfare of the people. This is not with him an attitude merely, but he exemplifies, in his own relations with his employees, the true spirit of helpfulness. His liberal policy towards the workers in his factories endear him to them. He is always eager to reward efficient or faithful service, and many of the employees who have been with him a considerable length of time now fill important positions in the organization and are stockholders in the company. Mr. Mason's more personal interests include wide fraternal connections. He is a member of Bristol Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; Rabboni Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Attleboro Council, Royal and Select Masters; Bristol Commandery, Knights Templar; and Aleppo Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, of Boston. He is also a member of the Improved Order of Red Men, and past sachem of Mirimishi Tribe.

**HON. WILLIAM C. CROSSLEY, LL. B.**—As a junior partner of the firm of Swift, Grime, Buffinton & Crossley, the Hon. William C. Crossley holds a noteworthy position in legal circles of Bristol county, Massachusetts. Mr. Crossley's public service has perhaps brought him even wider prominence than his professional activities, and he has done much in this connection which benefits his native city of Fall River, as well as the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Mr. Crossley is a son of William and Catherine M. (Brosnahan) Crossley.

William Crossley is a native of Blackburne, Lancashire, England, and came with his parents to the United States at the age of eight years, the family settling in Fall River, Massachusetts. His father, Luke Crossley, was a shoemaker by trade and was identified with this line of industrial endeavor throughout his lifetime. William Crossley has been active in the grocery business in Fall River for many years, and is one of the successful merchants of this city. The mother was born in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, and is also living.

William C. Crossley was born in Fall River, Massachusetts, April 11, 1892. His education was begun in the local public schools, and he was graduated from B. M. C. Durfee High School in the class of 1910, after which he entered Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Before the expiration of his first year's study, however, the young man was compelled to go back to his native city on account of ill health and this eventuated in his change of plan for his future. In the year 1910 he took up the study of law at the offices of Swift, Grime & Swift, the predecessors of the present firm of which he is now a member. In the fall of the same year he entered Boston University School of Law and received his bachelor degree in law from this institution upon his graduation in the class





*William C. Crossley.*





of 1914. Thereafter for a time he was active in a Boston law office, remaining until March, 1916, when he was admitted to the bar of Massachusetts, and immediately following this occasion he became a member of the firm of Clarkin & Crossley, forming a partnership with Harold E. Clarkin, as senior partner. This association continued until November, 1912, when Mr. Crossley became a member of the present firm, the name thereby becoming, Swift, Grime, Buffinton & Crossley. Messrs. Swift, Grime and Buffinton of this firm are leading figures in legal circles today in Fall River, and their lives are reviewed elsewhere in this work.

In the year 1917 Mr. Crossley was elected to the Massachusetts Constitutional Convention, being one of the youngest members ever sitting in that body. Representing the Eleventh Bristol District, he served as a member of the convention during the years 1917, 1918 and 1919 inclusive. In the latter year, after the conclusion of the deliberations of this body, he was elected to the Massachusetts State Legislature from the same district, and it also is noteworthy that under the biennial amendment to the State constitution this election placed him in office for a period of two years. His local public service has also been a matter of significance, and he was appointed special counsel under Mayor Kay, then was reappointed to the same position under Mayor Talbot. Following his reappointment he did special work in association with ex-Mayor Higgins, of Fall River, and Philip Nichols, of Boston, defending the suits of the various mills of Fall River seeking abatement of taxes. The stand taken by these eminent attorneys was that the privileges and advantages of the industrial plants of the city entitled the municipality to collect taxes at reasonable ratio from them, rather than to throw the burden of public costs more heavily in proportion on the smaller taxpayers. Fraternally Mr. Crossley is identified with King Philip Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; Fall River Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Massachusetts Consistory, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite; Aleppo Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, of Boston; Azab Grotto, of Fall River. He is also a member of Fall River Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and Fall River Lodge, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. His clubs are the Fall River Country and the Lamawansett Tennis. His religious affiliation is with the Summerfield Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a member of the famous Dr. E. C. Herrick's First Baptist Bible Class, which comprises more than 1,000 members of all denominations.

Mr. Crossley married, in 1918, Martha Edward Smith, a direct descendant of the "Mayflower" Pilgrims, who was born and reared in Vineyard Haven, Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. Mrs. Crossley is a graduate nurse of the Truesdale Hospital, and took post-graduate work at Bellevue Hospital in New York City, also at the Providence City Hospital. She volunteered her services in the World War in July, 1918, and was sent to Camp Dix, New Jersey, where she had charge of a surgical ward.

Mr. and Mrs. Crossley are the parents of three children: Marjorie C. and Marion F., twins; and William C., Jr.

**HERBERT HARTWELL SHUMWAY**, in various branches of the cotton textile industry, has handled great interests, and as an executive has won the highest rank in this field. For the past fifteen years he has been active in Taunton as an independent manufacturer, and specializing in the manufacture of materials for the making of ladies' hats, has developed a nationally important enterprise in this line of production. Mr. Shumway's large ability and extensive experience have also found scope for progressive effort in various other commercial and general interests, and his name is one of the most familiar names of the day in Bristol county, Massachusetts. He is a son of Harrison H. Shumway, a native of this State and a wheelwright by trade, who died in 1903, forty-three years after the death of the wife and mother, Nancy (Wellman) Shumway, who was also a native of Massachusetts, and passed away in the year 1860, at an early age.

Herbert Hartwell Shumway was born at Hampden, Massachusetts, March 23, 1857. He received his early education in the public schools of Palmer, in this State, then gained a practical foundation for a business career at the Utica Commercial College, at Utica, New York. Following the completion of his education, Mr. Shumway entered the employ of the Dwight Manufacturing Company, of Chicopee, Massachusetts, with which concern he remained for a period of six years. He then went to Utica, New York, to accept a position as overseer of the Capron Mill, of that city, where he remained for two years. Coming to Taunton, Massachusetts, in 1880, Mr. Shumway became identified with the Elizabeth Poole Mill, as overseer of the carding room, and was active in this connection for three years. He then went to Charleston, South Carolina, where he started operations in a new mill in that city, as overseer of carding, and was promoted to superintendent of carding and spinning, and at the end of three years left it a prosperous and thoroughly efficient enterprise. His next experience was with the St. Croix Mills, at Milltown, New Brunswick, Canada, as superintendent of the carding, spinning and weaving departments. There Mr. Shumway had under his supervision about two hundred and fifty employees, but this position proved only a stepping stone to one of far larger responsibilities. After five years with the St. Croix Mills, he came to Fall River, Massachusetts, to become superintendent of the Richard Borden Mills of that city, where he had under his supervision between five and six hundred employees, 86,000 spindles, and 2,100 looms. His success in this plant was a noteworthy chapter in the annals of the organization, and his stay with the concern covered a period of five years. He then became general manager of the B. B. & R. Knight Company, generally conceded to be the largest cotton manufacturers in the world, and in this connection Mr. Shumway had entire charge of thirteen



plants and 10,000 operatives. The great responsibilities of this position he filled for a period of two years, doing constructive work in every department, increasing the efficiency of the organization and the quality of the output. He then resigned to become the head of another interest. He built the plant of the Corr Manufacturing Company, in East Taunton, and as one of the organizers of the concern, became treasurer of the company and agent in charge of the mills. This enterprise was started for the purpose of manufacturing cotton piece goods, and bringing the plant to a profitable basis, Mr. Shumway remained with the concern for twelve years as treasurer and agent. This was a well established organization when he resigned his offices and withdrew from the concern, in 1908. At this time Mr. Shumway established his present interest, organizing the Atlas Buckram Company, Inc., for the purpose of manufacturing buckram, netting and the various fabrics used in the manufacture of ladies' hat frames. They also produce large quantities of these fabrics for the general trade, and have done a constantly increasing business from the time of the founding of the enterprise. Located at No. 19 Spring street, Taunton, Massachusetts, the scope of their operations extends all over the United States and Canada, and they are ranked among the three largest concerns in this special field in this country. They have about 30,000 square feet of floor space and employ about sixty hands. Mr. Shumway is still president of this concern, and although his eldest son is associated with him, and has assumed many responsibilities, the founder is the leading spirit in the enterprise, and is carrying it forward to ever larger success. Mr. Shumway is also affiliated with other industrial and commercial organizations and movements. He is president of the Palo Blanco Fruit Company, of Porto Rico; a director of the Palo Alto Fruit Company, of Porto Rico; and for three years has been president of the Board of Trade of Taunton. He is a director of the Atlantic Deeper Waterways Commission, and takes a deep interest in all that pertains to national and world progress. During the World War he served, by appointment of the United States Labor Bureau, as industrial advisor of the Sixth District, and he is now the possessor of a certificate from the United States Government in appreciation of his usefulness in the work placed in his hands. In local advance Mr. Shumway is always equally ready to bear a share in constructive effort along any line. He is chairman of the local playground committee and is a director of the Boys' Club of Taunton. Fraternally he is prominent, being a member of King David Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; Mount Olivet Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; St. Stephen's Commandery, Knights Templar; Boston Lodge of Perfection, Princes of Jerusalem; Massachusetts Consistory, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite; and Aleppo Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and his religious affiliation is with the Universalist church.

Herbert Hartwell Shumway married, in 1882,

Flora Frances Palmer, who was born in Norway, Maine, and is a daughter of Alonzo S. and Phylena (Godfrey) Palmer. Mr. and Mrs. Shumway are the parents of three sons: Alonzo H., of further mention; Herbert H., who served with the Coast Artillery Corps during the World War; and Walter P., who was active on a submarine chaser in the United States Navy during the war, holding the rank of chief electrician.

Alonzo H. Shumway, the eldest son of this family, is now active with his father in the Atlas Buckram Company, and is counted among the progressive and really significant executives of Taunton. He was born at Charleston, South Carolina, October 20, 1883. The family returning North in his childhood, his education was begun in the public schools of Fall River, Massachusetts, and continued in the public schools of Taunton. Purposing to enter the industry in which his father was engaged, Mr. Shumway took a course at the Lowell Textile School, then started life as a manufacturer of curtains, in Taunton. He was active along this line for about three years, then, with the dissolution of the concern, he accepted a responsible position with the Columbia Shade Company, of West Pullman, as manager of their lace curtain department. After four years in this connection Mr. Shumway returned to Taunton to become associated with his father in the Atlas Buckram Company, of which he has since been treasurer, still filling this responsible office. Alonzo H. Shumway is taking a broadly progressive part in the affairs of the company, and his comprehensive grasp of the various phases relevant to this branch of the textile industry places him among the efficient and able executives of the day in Bristol county. His further business affiliations include his offices as treasurer and a director of the Robinson Company, Inc., of this city, auto dealers. He was for several years a member of Company D, National Guard of the State of Massachusetts, and in all public interests lends his influence to every progressive movement. His more personal interests include membership in King David Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; and he is identified with all the Masonic bodies, also Aleppo Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, and is further a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His clubs are the Winthrop and the Segregansett Country, and he is a leading member of the Young Men's Christian Association. He is a member of the Universalist church.

Alonzo H. Shumway married, in 1916, Mabel J. Strange, of Taunton, daughter of Edward F. and Phoebe Strange, of this city.

**OSCAR G. THOMAS.**—Few names have meant more to the city of Taunton, Massachusetts, and to the industrial prosperity of Bristol county, than that of Oscar G. Thomas, whose life was devoted to the manufacture of stoves and ranges, and in whose death the world lost not only a great industrial executive, but a man of rare worth and a forward-looking, public-spirited citizen. His death, which occurred on December 10, 1920, caused widespread



regret, both in the city which practically throughout his lifetime was his residence and in the trade in which he was so widely known. But it was to those with whom he was most closely associated that his loss brought the deepest sorrow. His constant thoughtfulness for others, and his personal interest in every worker in his foundry, made him the head of the organization in a peculiarly happy sense, and made his loss the more keenly felt when he was suddenly taken away. Sampson Perkins, Oscar G. Thomas' maternal grandfather, was one of the founders of the above foundry, inaugurating its activities under the firm name of Eddy & Perkins.

Oscar G. Thomas was born in North Dighton, Massachusetts, May 1, 1851, and was a son of Gustavus and Hannah (Perkins) Thomas. Born on the famous Joseph Hathaway homestead of North Dighton, he gained his early education in Taunton, later attending Pierce Academy; at Middleboro, Massachusetts, for two winter terms, gaining the opportunity for this advanced study through his own efforts. He then associated himself with his grandfather in the enterprise which became the scene of his life-work, and which still bears his name. This industry was founded many years prior to the Civil War, on the site which it now occupies, by Eddy & Perkins, who carried it forward for some years, Sampson Perkins becoming sole owner in 1867. He carried it forward until the year 1873, when Oscar G. Thomas assumed the management of its affairs. This concern, the history of which forms an interesting part of the industrial pages of this work, has been devoted to iron founding and stove manufacture from its inception, and with the various changes of personnel during the passing years, the standards of the organization have ever been held high. They have led the way in the manufacture of parlor stoves and ranges under the trademark "Herald," the growth of the plant having taken place during the period in which Oscar G. Thomas guided its fortunes. The plant came to a period of large prosperity under his fostering care and fearless advance, two generations of Taunton men finding their means of livelihood under its roofs. Mr. Thomas enlarged its capacity from time to time, and one of his latest acts, although he was advanced in years, was the purchase of the Crucible plant adjoining for the development of plans stretching far into the future. His health had been uniformly good for many years, and nothing could have been more shocking to the people than the news that he was gone. It was after a day of alert activity, spent between the West Water street and the Rehoboth plants, that he sat down to supper with his family shortly before six o'clock, and without even sufficient warning for a farewell word to his loved ones, stepped from a useful and benevolent life into another world where it seems such a man could only go to further, wider usefulness. The Taunton "Daily Gazette," a leading evening daily of this city, commented upon this sad event in the following issue (December 11, 1920), in these lines of esteem and appreciation:

The announcement comes as a shock to this community, and it will be heard with regret by a large circle of friends

and business associates outside the city, as Mr. Thomas was everywhere accounted not only a man of most upright business principles, but one whose word and personality in all matters, business, social and religious, were those of a citizen on all occasions to be fully depended upon. He was known among those whom he employed as a man sympathetic and kindly, always preferring the humblest before himself, and seeking to do good without publication of the matter at any and all seasons of the year. The general word of all in his employ always has been one of honest praise and commendation both of the business methods and the friendliness of Mr. Thomas. Those intimate with him at his office and in his church and social relations freely declare their respect for the worth of the man.

The attention of Mr. Thomas was not wholly centered in the stove industry, but he was a stockholder in various concerns of Boston, Massachusetts; Providence, Rhode Island; and Nashua, New Hampshire; active in the sale of furniture. He was treasurer for a long period of the Dighton Stove Lining Company, and served on the board of directors of the Weir Co-operative Bank of Taunton. His advice and judgment were considered constructive factors in the development of these concerns and their present importance. All worthy effort found in him a sympathizing friend and able champion. He was one of the most loyal workers for the progress and support of the Young Men's Christian Association and served for years on the industrial committee of that organization. He was a devout Christian, a member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church at Weir Village, and for many years held office in the Methodist Social Union.

Oscar G. Thomas married, on November 19, 1873, Annie J. Wright, daughter of Joseph Wright, an early iron founder of Taunton, who for years owned the Union Foundry, later merged with the Thomas interests. To Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were born four children: Howard W., a sketch of whom follows; Josephine S., wife of Howard Milton Poole, of Taunton, their children numbering two: Madeline Thomas and Virginia Sampson; Helen P.; and Laura G., these two daughters still residing at home. The wife, children and grandchildren still survive Mr. Thomas, also his sister, Mrs. Frank R. Washburn.

In such a life as that of Oscar G. Thomas are exemplified those standards of thought, and those goals of purpose which contribute in the most practical and constructive way to the prosperity of the community and the welfare of the people. In his passing Taunton lost not only a man of high achievement, but of lofty ideals; and in his life history the city is honored, and in his memory, blest.

**HOWARD W. THOMAS:**—At the head of an important and long established industrial concern of Taunton, Massachusetts, Howard W. Thomas stands among the broadly noteworthy figures of Bristol county, and his activities are promoting the progress of the stove industry throughout the country. The firm of Oscar G. Thomas & Company, of Taunton, is one of international fame as manufacturers of "Herald" ranges, and Howard W. Thomas is the fourth generation to stand in the leading executive position of the enterprise. Through some changes



of name and the many vicissitudes incidental to all business organizations, the plant, which is now one of the significant features of this center of stove production, has been devoted to similar activities for upwards of a century. A grandson of Gustavus and Hannah (Perkins) Thomas, he is descended from Sampson Perkins, of the original firm of Eddy & Perkins, which was succeeded by Gustavus Thomas, son-in-law of the founder, and in his turn, by Oscar G. Thomas, whose name it still bears, and whose life is reviewed at length on preceding pages.

Howard W. Thomas, son of Oscar G. and Annie J. (Wright) Thomas, was born in the city of Taunton, Massachusetts, March 1, 1876. His education was begun in the local public schools, and he was graduated from the Taunton High School in the class of 1894. With this practical preparation for his life-work, Mr. Thomas entered upon the activities of the plant of which his father was then the owner and the active head, and was associated with him until the death of the older man, becoming a member of the firm on January 1, 1911, upon its incorporation. Upon the death of his father he was elected to the office of president of the company, and in this connection still ably serves. Howard W. Thomas has further business affiliations in Taunton, acting as a director of the Dighton Stove Lining Company, Inc. Interested in a general way in all that pertains to civic and social advance, Mr. Thomas has few connections outside the business world, his time being wholly commanded therein.

Howard W. Thomas married, in 1910, Emma L. Mason, of Taunton, and they have one daughter, Jean M., born in 1911.

**GEORGE W. CHEEVER** has for forty-three years been a leading jewelry manufacturer in Bristol county. Winning his way on his merits in his earlier years, Mr. Cheever took counsel of his courage at an early age and struck out for himself in the present enterprise, which has become one of the really important concerns in jewelry manufacture in this section.

Mr. Cheever is a son of William M. Cheever, who was born at Wrentham, Massachusetts, and died in 1883; he was a jeweler by trade. The mother, Frances J. (Allen) Cheever, was born at Rehoboth, Massachusetts, and was a daughter of Hon. Isaiah Allen, for many years representative of that town in the Massachusetts Legislature.

George W. Cheever was born at North Attleboro, February 22, 1846. His education was limited to the public school course, but gifted with the ability to win useful knowledge from every experience, he has supplemented his formal education with a broadly comprehensive fund of learning. His early business experience was in the capacity of clerk in mercantile activities at both North Attleboro, Massachusetts, and Providence, Rhode Island. Returning from Providence to North Attleboro he learned the trade of jeweler and was active in the employ of various concerns until the year 1880. At this time

Mr. Cheever established himself as a manufacturing jeweler. His enterprise attracted considerable attention, and with the energy and initiative of the thoroughly progressive business executive, Mr. Cheever developed a considerably important interest. He has followed those policies which give success in any field of endeavor, and with the constant expansion of the business has won ever higher prominence. The firm was known under the name of G. W. Cheever & Company until its incorporation, which occurred January 1, 1897, John E. Tweedy becoming a member of the firm at that time. The firm name thereby became Cheever, Tweedy & Company, which is the form still retained. The plant has remained at its original location in the Company building on Elm street, where they occupy an entire floor of more than 5,000 square feet of floor space, employing 80 hands. They manufacture a general line of jewelry, specializing in designs for ladies' wear, and their products go to all parts of the United States and Canada. This is one of the leading enterprises of its kind at the present time, as well as one of the oldest in this field, and its present importance has been developed from the original quota of only six employees.

Mr. Cheever is also interested in the financial world of North Attleboro as vice-president and a director of the North Attleboro Savings Bank. He supports the Republican party in political affairs, and is a member of the finance committee of that party, although otherwise he has never accepted public responsibility. He is a charter member of the North Attleboro Board of Trade, and has formerly been identified with the Manufacturing Jewelers' Association. Fraternally Mr. Cheever is affiliated with Bristol Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; Rabboni Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Bristol Commandery, Knights Templar; and Palestine Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, of Providence, Rhode Island. Socially he is affiliated with the Pomham Club, of Rhode Island. Interested as he is in many phases of community advance, Mr. Cheever is broadly representative of all that counts for enduring progress in civic, social and industrial affairs. He is a member of the Universalist parish.

Mr. Cheever married, in 1873, Harriett O. Richards, who was born at North Attleboro, Massachusetts, a daughter of Francis P. Richards, who was a leading manufacturing jeweler of North Attleboro, and a member of a very old and honored family of this community. Mrs. Cheever's mother, Julia (Peck) Richards, was born at Rehoboth, Massachusetts. Mr. and Mrs. Cheever are the parents of one daughter, Annie F., now the wife of Edward T. Upham.

**HON. GEORGE GRIME, A. B., A. M., LL. B.**—As a leading member of the law firm of Swift, Grime, Buffinton & Crossley, one of the foremost groups of attorneys in Fall River, Massachusetts, the Hon. George Grime is closely identified with the progress of the city, and as a public servant and at one time mayor of Fall River, Judge Grime is a





*Eng by E. G. Williams & Bro NY*

*George Grinnell.*

*Lewis Historical Pub Co*





leader in civic advance. Judge Grime is a son of William E. and Ruth E. (Mellor) Grime, both natives of England, who came to the United States in 1869, locating in Fall River. The father, who was a machinist by occupation, was a man of a deep public spirit and lofty ideals, and early became a citizen of this country, supporting her institutions and contributing to her prosperity. Both parents are now deceased and lying in Oak Grove Cemetery, Fall River.

George Grime was born in Manchester, England, September 7, 1859. He was about ten years of age when he came to this country with his parents, and his education, which was begun in his native land, was continued in the grammar and high schools of Fall River. He later entered Brown University, from which he was graduated in the class of 1886, at that time receiving his degree of Bachelor of Arts. Three years later the same institution conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts, but in the meanwhile he had entered Harvard University School of Law, from which he received his degree of Bachelor of Laws, and from which he graduated in the class of 1890. Admitted to the bar in his native State, Judge Grime took up the practice of his chosen profession in the fall of the same year, and in the following year formed a partnership with M. G. B. Swift, under the firm name of Swift & Grime. This firm succeeded Brayley & Swift, Mr. Swift's former partner having been elevated to the bench of the Superior Court. Judge Brayley is now a member of the Supreme Judicial Court and is the oldest practicing judge in the Massachusetts Courts. The death of Mr. Swift occurred in 1902, but the firm still chose to do him the honor of retaining his name, his son, James M. Swift, being then in the firm. Later James M. Swift was elected assistant district attorney, still later district attorney, and eventually attorney-general of Massachusetts. Another son of Judge Swift, John Tuttle Swift, became affiliated with the firm and continued therein for a number of years. John Tuttle Swift was considered one of the most active and successful trial lawyers of Fall River, but resigned to become treasurer and executive head of the Citizens' Savings Bank. James M. Swift is senior partner of this firm, and the younger members of the firm are Harold S. R. Buffinton and William C. Crossley, both having come into the organization within recent years, reviews of their lives appearing elsewhere in this work. The firm handles principally real estate and banking practice, and they now occupy the entire second floor of the new Citizens' Savings Bank building, one of the finest structures in the city.

The public service of Judge George Grime is a record of eminent and commendable usefulness. He was first brought forward as city solicitor of Fall River in 1892 and served for three years. He was then appointed associate justice of the Second District Court of Bristol County, and served for seven years. His work on the bench was distinguished by the fairmindedness and broad vision which have made Judge Grime one of the significant forces

for progress in Bristol county, and although he served in this position so many years ago he is still remembered as one of the most thoroughly estimable men who have ever graced the bench of Massachusetts. In the year 1901 Judge Grime was elected to the highest local office in the gift of the people, that of Mayor of the city of Fall River, and on this occasion his popularity was clearly demonstrated, for he carried every precinct in the city at the elections in December of that year. He served as the last mayor under the old charter and the first mayor under the new one, his administration having covered the date of change. Later Judge Grime again received the appointment of city solicitor, and from 1912 until the present time his activities in this office have continued, contributing in a marked degree to the prosperity and economic security of the municipality. During the World War he served, by appointment from the governor of the State, as chairman of the legal advisory board of the city of Fall River. Judge Grime is affiliated with the world of finance of Fall River as a member of the corporation of the Fall River Savings Bank and attorney for the Troy Co-operative Bank and of the Citizens' Savings Bank. He is also a member of the board of directors of the Troy Co-operative Bank.

Fraternally he is widely prominent, being a member of Mt. Hope Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; Fall River Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Godfrey de Bouillon Commandery, Knights Templar; Fall River Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Fall River Lodge, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of which he is trustee; and Mt. Vernon Lodge, Knights of Pythias. He was active in organizing the Fall River Historical Society, and is one of the board of directors thereof. His clubs are the Quequechan and the King Philip Boat; he is a member of the First Baptist Church of Fall River, with which he has been identified since the year 1876.

Judge Grime married, in October, 1899, at the Judson Memorial Church, New York City, Helen A. Arnold, of New Bedford, Massachusetts, who died March 9, 1923.

**JAMES THOMAS MILNE.**—A venerable figure in the cotton textile industry in Fall River, Massachusetts, still active and keenly alert to the movements of the times, although past the age of three score and ten, James Thomas Milne has for many years taken a definitely constructive part in the industrial advance of Fall River. Mr. Milne's long experience as a capable and efficient executive has meant much to the prosperity of the Osborn Mills, of which for fifteen years he has been treasurer.

Rev. John Milne, grandfather of James T. Milne, was an eminent divine of Scotland, and his influence not only in his own generation and country, but through his son in America, was the source of much good.

Alexander Milne, son of Rev. John Milne, was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, in the year 1811, and was educated for the ministry under his father's



able tutoring. At the age of about eighteen years he crossed the Atlantic, landing in Nova Scotia, and shortly after coming to the United States he settled in Fall River, Massachusetts. Here he found employment in the machine shop of Hawes, Marvel & Davol, where he worked for a number of years. He later became interested in Sunday school work, this leading to his eventual activity in the ministry. While still employed in the factory he was associated with Deacon Peckham, familiarly and affectionately known as "Father Peckham" in missionary work. Mr. Milne then entered the ministry, his first charge being as pastor of the Central Baptist Church of Tiverton, Rhode Island. He was later transferred, successively, to Pocasset, Massachusetts, Middleboro, Massachusetts, Schodack and Sand Lake, New York, subsequently being sent to Thornhill, Onondago county, New York, thence to Macedon, New York, thence to Alden, New York, where his last active years were spent. He resigned from the ministry in the year 1865 and returned to Fall River, Massachusetts, where his death occurred in the autumn of 1866. He is remembered still by some of the older residents of this city as one of the old time clergymen who preached Christianity because he loved it and felt that it was his mission in life to make life brighter for his fellowmen. The inscription on his gravestone is: "His mission was to preach Christ and he was faithful to his trust." Alexander Milne married Eliza A. Osborn, who survived him for about eleven years, passing away in 1877. She was a worthy helpmate and a faithful co-worker in his religious activities.

James Thomas Milne was born at Schodack, New York, October 26, 1846. His early education was acquired in the public schools of the various towns to which his father's work as a minister called him, the family residence necessarily changing many times. He later had the advantage of a course at the Cottage Seminary at Alden, New York, but his formal school attendance closed at the age of sixteen years. His early business experience was in the employ of a photographer of Buffalo, New York, one of the pioneers in the art of photography, and while in this connection Mr. Milne attended the evening courses at the Bryant & Stratton Business College in Buffalo. In October, 1863, Mr. Milne entered the employ of an older brother, who conducted a photograph gallery in Fall River, then in the following year he accepted a position as clerk in the Pocasset Bank. Mr. Milne was active in this institution for about five years, then in the fall of 1868 he became the junior partner in the private banking firm of Easton & Milne, which house later became prominent in the real estate business and was identified extensively with the erection of many of the prominent textile plants of this city and vicinity. In January, 1876, with the gradual shrinking of values brought about by a period of overproduction and subsequent financial panic, the firm of Easton & Milne went down in the general crash. Meanwhile, in the year 1872, the Osborn Mill was organized in the banking house

of Easton & Milne, the capitalization being \$500,000. and the entire amount fully subscribed in one day. Weaver Osborn, an uncle of Mr. Milne, and one of the largely prominent figures in the early financial progress of Fall River, was made first president of this corporation, and Joseph Healy was made the first treasurer. This concern has gone forward to a point where the present capitalization is \$750,000, and Mr. Milne became associated with the organization in the year 1908.

Meanwhile, in February, 1876, Mr. Milne founded the firm of Tuttle, Milne & Company, receiving into partnership a brother, George A. Milne, who remained with the firm until his retirement in 1880, when he went West. In 1878 P. J. Hurley came into the firm and was associated with J. T. Milne until the year 1900, when the firm was dissolved, and for about eight years Mr. Milne was retired from business activity. His holdings in the textile plants of this section kept his interest alive in this branch of industrial activity, however, and in the year 1908 he was elected treasurer of the Osborn Mills. In this capacity he has since ably served, and in this connection it is relevant to state that since his election to the treasurership of the concern the Osborn Mills have never failed to pay a quarterly dividend to their stockholders. Mr. Milne's duties as treasurer still command his attention, and his ability and seasoned judgment are active forces for progress in the organization. Mr. Milne is a director of the Metacomet National Bank of Fall River, and also a member of the corporation of the Citizens' Savings Bank, a review of which institution is published on other pages of this work. His time has always been largely devoted to his work, but he is fraternally affiliated with King Philip Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, is a charter member of the Quequechan Club, and also of the Fall River Country Club. Since early life he has affiliated himself with religious advance and worships at the First Baptist Church of Fall River.

James Thomas Milne married (first), in January, 1869, Abbie L. Slade, daughter of William L. and Mary Slade, of Somerset, Massachusetts. Mrs. Milne died in November, 1872. Mr. Milne married (second), in February, 1876, Mattie J. Gardner, daughter of Samuel Borden and Louise (Keith) Gardner, of New Bedford, Massachusetts, and they are the parents of one son, Keith, born in August, 1878, died in July, 1879. The Milne town residence is at No. 254 French street, Fall River, and the summer home is at Martha's Vineyard.

**DAVID E. MAKEPEACE.**—With a record of thirty-six years continuous, independent activity in his present field of industrial effort, David E. Makepeace, of Attleboro, Massachusetts, has won his way to a preeminent position in the production of jewelers' stock. The D. E. Makepeace Company, Incorporated, is the largest concern in the world in the manufacture of seamless wire and tubing, rolled plate and so forth for the jewelers' trade.

Mr. Makepeace is a son D. W. Makepeace, who was born at Norton, Massachusetts, and died in the















**HECKMAN**  
B I N D E R Y, I N C.  
Bound-To-Pleaze®  
**JULY 03**  
N. MANCHESTER, INDIANA 46962

